

AN
EXPERIMENTALL
DISCOVERIE OF
SPANISH PRACTISES

OR
THE COVNSELL OF A
well-wilhing Souldier, for the good of
his Prince and State.

WHEREIN
IS MANIFESTED FROM KNOWN
experience, both the Cruelty, and Policy of the
Spaniard, to effect his own ends.

CHIEFLY
Swelling with multiplicity of glorious titles, as one
of the greatest Monarchs of the earth, that being admired of
all, his greatnesse might amaze all, and so by degrees
seeking covertly to tyrannize over all. When
as indeed and truth, the greatest part
of his pretended Greatnesse is but a
*windy crack of an ambi-
tious man.*



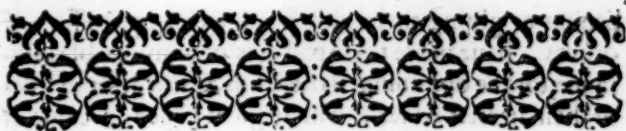
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The Publisher to the Reader.

Gentle Reader, although in respect of the Authors absence, the Copie now presented be not so compleat throughout as it should; yet because (as we say in the proverbe) Delayes are dangerous, specially in matters of moment, and hoping it is not materially defective in any thing, from the perfectest Copie or Authors minde, I have presumed to publish it as it is, wishing no lesse good success, then the Author himselfe intended; and so desiring my upright meaning may be accepted in good part by the Courteous Reader, I bid thee Farewell.

London

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A DISCOURSE

TENDRED TO HIS MAIESTIE

King of Great Brittain &c. touching some
*Spanish practises to serue their
own ends.*

THE motiue of this Discourse, most renowned Soueraigne, which at this time I intend to handle, for that it hath relation to two ends to periods, to wit, peace and warre, the one much to be preferred before the other, as well by diuine, as human Arguments; yet for that the time agreeing with the necessity, we are in regard of the feare of the Spanish greatnesse hereafter, which vndoubtedly he will attain unto by the innumerable masses of his Indian treasures which are the nerues and sinnewes of all martiall intendments, by which faire opportunityes offered vnto the greatnesse of his desire, for the enlargement of his state, glory and renowne, and that there may be no obiekt that may impidiment the let thereof, but onely a determination in himselfe not to offend his neighbours, I shall hardly beleeu that he will so much differ from his Progenitors, I meane *Ferdinand* and *Charles* and *Phillip*, who raised not the fame of the Spanish Monarchie, by iust, noble and laudible warres, but by cruell, bloody and treacherous inuasions, especially against Princes of their own blood; who under pretence of re-

An experientiall Discouery

lieuing or giuing them aide against the oppression of others, haue made these passages of vn moucable assurance, for the obtaining of the lands, Crownes and liues of their neerest Allies, which giueth mee no caule of hope of his good dealing towards your Highness, and the States, who are neither allied vnto him by blood, as these former Princes were, nor tyed vnto him by the offices of Confederacie; whereby for former good turnes receiued, hee might let you liue in peace: but contrarily, wee being onely the stop of the Spanish fury of this part of the world; and a Nation who haue not onely giuen him infinite disgraces, as well by open battell, as sundry inuasions and incurfions, made vpon his frontier Townes and Territories, to the irrecoverable dishonor of the Spanish people, and vnmasking his former forces to all men; which indeede are but a meere shew, and frightening them onely; knowing their Greatnesse depends with filling the world with an imagination of their Mightinesse. For the Spaniard may well be compared to a drumme, or emptie vessell, that being beaten vpon, makes a great and terrible noise; but come nearer them, breake them and looke into them, and there is nothing within can hurt you. Or rather like the Asse, that wrapt himselfe in the Lyons skinne, and marched a farre off, to strike terrour into the hearts of the beasts; but when the Fox drew neerer, hee not onely perceiued his long eares, but likewise discouered him and made him a iest to all the beasts of the Forrest. So that I inferre (most gracious Soueraigne) that vnlesse hee now preuaile with you, and by that meanes gaine a peace to make himselfe more strong for a fitter

time

time to hunt you and your neighbours; his forces at this time, in respect of you and your Confederates, are so weak and resistable, as it may well appeare vnto your Highnesse, that his Monarchie is rather maintained by Opinion then Might; as it hath euer stood since the losse of the low Countries (if it had beene with iudgement exquisitely looked into) rather by giuing out greater rumours of power, and by secrecie, then by the greatnesse of their owne forces. So as to make this shadow a Substance, whereby not onely his Indies should be sure, but all the world tremble at his greatnesse. What oath is it that hee whould keepe? What condition that he would not breake? Or, what opportunitie that he would let slip for the accomplishment thereof, if thereby he might assure himselfe of the Ile? And therefore, though I commend peace before warre; yet if the Countrey cannot obtaine a good peace without warre, I thinke it consequently followes, that it is necessary for you to make a warre with your enemy, whilst you haue the aduantage in your hands, whereby you may lay a sure foundation of a sure peace for your Selfe, Posteritie and State for after ages; rather then to dreame of a peace which shall no longer hold; then he is able by breaking to reuenge. For doubtlesse in the preservation of Kingdomes, it is no iniurie to doe that to your enemy, which hee would doe vnto you, if hee could. And therefore those Princes, States or people who soeuer, that shall build so firmly vpon the condition of peace to be kept by the enemy, the breach whereof may turn to his or their great danger or destruction; that Prince, State or people, in my opinion haue either little

tle

the iudgement of themselves, or are ill aduised of the
 Counsell: Securitie of their owne estates, or too much
 fidelity to others, haue not onely been the destruction
 of many families, but likewise of great and potent
 Kingdoms, Prouinces & Townes. And therefore to this
 day, there could neuer be found so great safetie to pri-
 uate men or publike States, as mistrust; as appeareth
 by *Demosthenes* in his second to the Athenians against
 "Phillip of Macedon. There are (quoth he) deuised
 "many strengths and defences for the maintenance
 "of Cities and Townes, as Trenches, Walls, Ram-
 "parts, Dikes, Bulwarkes, and such like, the which
 "are made by mens hands, with great cost and charge:
 "but nature (saith he) hath giuen to all wise men a
 "a common defence and safeguard; the which as it
 "is profitable to all men particularly; so it is a most
 "wholsome and sure holde and fortresse, to all
 "Countries and Citties, against all manner of tyran-
 "nie, and what fortes to mistrust, that which if it
 "be well and surely kept, it will preserve and keepe
 "you all. And therefore to preuent danger in a con-
 uenient season, and to prouide in time against the
 worst, is a thing most wholsome, necessary, and
 worthy of greatest commendations. For as fore-
 sight makes men wary. so confident suspicion help-
 eth iudgement, and bringeth to light many hidden
 practises: and those that doe not feare the complots
 of their enemies, nor regard of forces preparations
 against them, are doublelesse neere some disastrous
 fortune, or extreame ruine of their estates and for-
 tunes.

How preiudiciall their treaties of peace haue euer
 been

been to such Princes or States with whom they have contended, is most evident, as well to us, as other Nations, as appears by their Armies in 88, who came with fire and sword to cut the throats of the people of this land: (had not God prevented their treacherous resolutions.) At the selfe same time they had entertained us with a maine shew of a desire of peace, and our Commissioners being with them for the same purpose. As also when *Ferdinand* of *Aragon* the last, and *Phillip* Archduke of *Austria* were in treaty of marriage of *Madam Standij* of *France*, with *Charles* the fifth, and after was concluded, sworn and confirmed at *Blois*, the King of *France* being *Lewis* the twelfth; his Lieutenants mistrusting nothing in respect of the premises, the *Spaniards* set upon them, defeating two *French* Armies, the one at *Calabria*, under the conduct of the Lord *D Aubigney*; the other at *Cernigola*, led by the Duke of *Nemours*; by which treacherous overthrow of these two noble Captaines, by *don Consolis de Cordus*, called the great Captaine Commander of the *Spaniards* in these parts: they arrested from the *French*, most of the peeces in *Italy*, which they keepe untill this day. And therefore howsoever other men be opinionated of the Spanish faith and fidelity with your Majesty and State, yet for my part, I will thinke of them, and their promises, as a Noble man of *Athens* thought of
 "a certaine Oratour. Your words (quoth he) my
 "friends are like the Cypresse, which although great
 "and high, beare no fruit. And truly, as they are
Spaniards I cannot well blame them; for they well know, that the Crowne of *Spaine* is at stake, and all

the Indies, and his other Signiories, and therefore will not faile to put in practise all tricks that may win the game, though it be by foule play. For if he haue not peace with *England* at this time, it is not unknowne unto him that the foundation of his Monarchy will be shaken in peeces. And we cannot but see this, and yet will take no advantage thereof, where-by we may secure our selves both for present and future times; we may be compared to the *Athenians*, of whom I haue spoken before, who by *Titus Livius* report were men, *who knew what to doe, but would not doe it*: which is a fault so ominous to all states, that it not onely presenteth it selfe against; but likewise followeth disasters and ruine to the Commonwealth that refuseth. For opportunitie doth not attend upon Captaines and Councellours pleasures, but sheweth it selfe on a suddaine; and if not embraced, passeth away without returning; And therefore the advantages that one State, that are enemies hath of another, happen so seldome to the Globes, as *Saturn* finisheth his course but in 30 yeares. But our enemy is free, and I speake it to his honour, from this base and earthly resolution; for it is reported of them, by this speciall vertue, they haue rayfed their state to so high a pitch: which is, that no people can readier finde the occasion, or sooner take, or resolute it, when it is offered. And doubtlesse, to say the truth, I am much more fearefull of the *Spanish* proceedings, for that he goeth by precedent: which is an excellent kind of discipline, as well in Martiall as civill actions; especially when the action is grounded upon a sure foundation. And as all Kings
and

and Captaines which desire to attain to great things, doe imitate some one Prince, or Generall that hath preceded them: so doubtlesse haue the Kings of *Spain*, for these many yeares, imitated in all their actions (as neere as the time and States with whom they haue contended would giue them leaue) that noble, valiant and politick Captain *Phillip* of *Magedon*, who indeede laid the foundation of his sons Monarchy, & this was his Maxime, That where force could not preuail, he alwaies used bribes and money to corrupt the principall of the inhabitants: Insomuch that at a certain time at the assault of a Citie, which to a Captaine of his seemed impregnable, and therefore thought to di-
 “vert his purpose in the besieging thereof. Thou art
 “a foole (quoth he) for I will haue this great Citie,
 “notwithstanding the walles and ramparts, if the
 “Gates be so big that an Asse laden with gold can
 “but enter. And questionlesse, if your Majestie
 would but search into the *Spaniards* proceedings,
 since he had the Indies, you should acquaint your
 selfe with many such presidents of their part, to be
 a warning to you to looke at this time aduisedly to
 your owne safety, lest you fall into the like misfor-
 tunes. And although I could alledge many which
 (for breuities sake) I omit, yet I will recite one (lest
 it should be thought I knew none) which is, *viz.*
 “When *Ferdinand* of *Aragon* saw, by the sword he
 “could not get the country of *Rossillon* and *Perpig-*
 “*nan*, out of the hands of *Charles* the French King,
 “which as they say had been ingaged to *Lewis* the 11,
 “he fell to practise with them of Religion; wherefore
 “he corrupted with a great summe of money one

“*Oliver Maillandor*, as some say, *John de Madron* a
 “Franciscan Frier, Confessor to the Lady *Brawnem*
 “the Kings sister, who vnder the roote of Religion,
 “cloaking his hypocrysie and coveteousnesse, per-
 “swaded this simple Lady, that unlesse restitution
 “was made of those Territories to the King of *Spaine*,
 “his government could not prosper, nor please God ;
 “she being moved in conscience with this Friers
 “perswasions, brake this matter to *Lewis* of *Amboise*
 “Bishop of *S. Albie*, the Kings Schoolemaster, who
 “together with her, so terrified the Kings conscience,
 “that hee not onely made restitution of the said Ter-
 “ritories, by the said Bishop, but likewise freely re-
 “leased to the King of *Spaine*, the said *Ferdinand*, all
 “the mony that *Lewis* his father had paid for them :
 “Marry with condition, that the said King and his
 “Successors should ever loue and honour the King of
 “*France*, that he should make no warres against it,
 “nor aide with mony, victuals nor counsell, any ene-
 “mies thereof, nor permit them to haue passage
 “through their Dominions. And thus were the
 countries restored to the Frenchmens grieve. But
 the French King misreckoned himselfe in the *Spa-*
nish fidelity, for having occasion to warre in *Italy*
 shortly after, he had no sooner past the Mountaines,
 but the King of *Spaine* forgot all his kindnesse, and be-
 gan to practise a league with his enemies. So as I in-
 ferre (mighty Prince) that either by shew of Religi-
 on, or subtile and sophisticall Arguments; or in desire
 you haue to trust some about you, on whose shoul-
 ders ever (in regard of your opinion of their wise-
 domes and fidelities) you cast your selfe, and your
 care

care of your estate, in all, or either of these, you are like, without the more grace of God, to receiue disadvantage in this your peace-making (and yet perhaps no fault in them.) For it seems to me wonderful, that the truth of things being one; yet may falsehood be so apparelled with the habits of likelihood and truth, as (changing countenance) it is often retained in stead thereof. And for as much as upon this Treatie now in hand, not onely dependeth your own happines, the happines of your noble Issue, States, Kingdoms, Subiects, or whatsoever else is deer unto you; but likewise the happinesse or unhappinesse of all the Princes of Europe. So (most gracious Lord) in respect of these great and mighty dependances, as well in regard of your owne particular, as generall good of the Christian Common-wealth, which so long hath groaned under the feare of the *Spanish* greatnesse, digest and distinguish every particular; and in a point, in your owne person, without trusting of any man with a matter of great importance: which although it will be very intricate by the diuersitie of so many things as will offer themselves to be considered, yet (renowned Sovereigne) it will be very profitable to your Highnesse, and most acceptable and pleasing to the people, when they shall heare and see the great care the King hath of "them and their safety: For as *Commines* saith, hee "thinketh it the greatest plague that God can lay upon a Realme to giue them such a Prince as shall in "great things giue his Authority unto others, which most especially in such a case as this hee ought to reserve unto himselfe. Although I confesse Princes

ought to haue Ministers in all things, especially in great matters, but not to conclude any thing without the Princes assent; nor with him neither, but by the relation of many circumstances, in regard of that affinity which truth and falsehood haue in many matters of great moment. And yet I protest out of my owne opinion, I am no way jealous of any of the Councill; for as for them I hold them to be all most noble and worthy personages, and fit to manage great Kingdoms, as part of the Indies, and other Seignories: which are as fit for you to take, as the King of *Spaine* to keep; which by your just command and valour of the *English* and *Scottish* Nations shall be gained unto you and your posterity; without which, whatsoever your Selfe thinketh, or other men say, neither you, nor your posterity can ever be safe, upon probable and reasonable grounds, if the *Spaniards* intend to disquiet you, as I will now my selfe proue; and as these following projects made by the *Cassilian* themselves, may appeare, by the necessity they are in to be
 “Masters of the Ile, *viz.* That a mighty King, determining to preferue his owne, hath no better meanes
 “then by conquering that of another mans; alwayes
 “holding this as a Maxime, That whosoeuer preferueth getting nothing, neither by keeping his owne,
 “can subdue the will of perverse men, that they may
 “not be able to make him a disturbance. These reasons ought more to preuaile with your Majestie
 “(quoth he) then with any other Prince, since you
 “hold your great State much dispersed, and the greatest part of your power consists in things moueable
 “and uncertaine, which are the Indian Fleet; which
 neither

“neither Garrisons, Fortresses, nor any good proce-
 “dings can hardly assure; although your Maiestie had
 “great forces and power: as at this present wee may
 “well perceiue by this Pirat *Drake*, who with nothing
 “is able to molest the whole world, notwithstanding
 “the provisions which are made on your Majesties
 “behalfse for the preventing thereof. Wherefore (saith
 “he) let your Majestie entertaine an enterprise against
 “*England*; which both is, and may be the principall
 “disturber of your Indian Fleete and Commerce.
 “Neither let your Majesty suppose there can be a bet-
 “ter or safer way, for the quiet of States, or the ad-
 “vancement of your certaine Greatness, then by re-
 “moving this Mountaine of Disquiet to your most
 “high and Kingly purposes, and conquering of this
 “Ile. As also *Don Phillip* the second, of *Castile*, having
 “a great and earnest desire to make himselfe Master
 “of this Ile of the world, and perceiving two obsta-
 “cles to curb his proceedings in that kind; to wit, the
 “warres of the *Neitherlands*, and the Iealousie of this
 “State of ours hath ever had of his Greatnesse; and
 “being desirous to haue the fountaine of this happi-
 “nesse to spring from one of those two heads deter-
 “mining to build this resolution, which with most
 “ease, most honour, most safety, and most advantage,
 “might be carried to his after designs. Vpon consi-
 “deration whereof, and mature deliberation, reasons
 were alledged *pro & contra*, amongst which, in my
 iudgement, some are most prevalent reasons, and
 such doubts as the Spanish King from the mouth of
 him who made Reason his ground, and Experience
 his Schoolmaster for what he said, and are following.

It.

“ It is my determination in this present Discourse (said
“ he) to shew, as your renowned Seignorie comman-
“ deth me, by way of Reall foundation, that it is much
“ more expedient for that purpose of your Catholike
“ Majestie to moue your war against *England* then the
“ *Netherlands*, declaring thus much notwithstanding
“ reall foundation in this point, I mean not common
“ principles of nature, or of science, neither of Ma-
“ thematicall demonstrations of this present subject,
“ is not capable, but rather reasons probably ground-
“ ed upon truth. There are many, who but obser-
“ ving the first view of your Catholicke Majesties in-
“ terest to *Flanders* and *England* affirm, that though this
“ Island by just pretention pertaineth to your Majestie,
“ yet you are so much the more bound to recover
“ those countries of the *Netherlands* rather then con-
“ quer *England*; by how much by all policie, the preser-
“ vation of things already possessed, must goe before
“ things never injoyed. But though this be a great po-
“ sition in publicke affaires, yet we intreating of mat-
“ ters of State (I) will not judge it of that weight
“ as that it may weigh downe the ballance; which gal-
“ ling the one side more then the other, might im-
“ paire the whole summe and safetie of things. Wee
“ must consider what ought; but further how it is pos-
“ sible, more profitable, more easie, more expedient
“ to be done. For oftentimes Princes are so pricked to
“ warre by the stimulation of honour, or of their de-
“ sire to some enterprise, as that the bridle of many
“ other circumstances, which would requisitely be
“ considered, cannot draw them back. For an example
“ of this, wee may set before our eyes the *Venetian*
Common-

"Common wealth, who thinking of nothing else
 "but their duty to be revenged on the Duke of Mil-
 "laine; preferred immoderate ambition before all
 "other respects; and so, too late, remembred, that the
 "office of prudence, is to moderate passions, and spleen
 "in important resolutions: especially when they draw
 "after them a taile or traine of great inconveniences.
 "The consideration thereof; that we are more bound
 "to preserve the things we possesse, then conquer
 "new, is not sufficient to conclude that your Majesty
 "ought to take in hand the enterprise of *Flanders*; rather
 "then *England*; neither in that so importunate affaires
 "should we seeke occasion so light, But to the end it
 "may appeare evidently, that in every respect your Ma-
 "jesty is bound to the enterprise of *England*, I will
 "before any thing establish a foundation to that
 "whole edifice of my opinion, viz. That in subduing
 "of *England*, you overcome at the same time the *Ne-*
 "*therlands* also; but having overcome the *Netherlands*,
 "*England* is not presentiy subdued; neither doth per-
 "adventure the hope increase that you shall after con-
 "quer it. But I affirme moreover, that to conquer *Eng-*
 "*land* is not an action more difficult, or lesse certaine,
 "then if it were the *Netherlands*: For if *England* doe
 "consequently draw after it the *Netherlands*; and if it
 "be more easie and more secure, who doubteth, but
 "he that should pervert this course would be a right
 "destroyer of Opportunity; and so become the forger
 "of his owne disgrace. But I will proue with prevail-
 "lent Reasons, that one and the other member of my
 "foundation, which is, that the victorie of *England*, is
 "more profitable then that of the *Netherlands*, &c more
 C easie

" easie to obtaine. As for the prooffe of my first foun-
 " dation, I betake my selfe to these principall heads.
 " The first is: If the *Netherlands* had not maintained
 " warre so many yeares, but by the aide and succour of
 " *England*; that which hath still supplied fewell to the
 " flames and fire of the rebellion: For if *England*
 " would but faile them, it is cleere, they could not stand
 " out; no more then a living body can be preserved
 " without nourishment and it is more securely extin-
 " guisht by taking away the maintenance and nourish-
 " ment thereof, then by striving to quench it by his
 " contrary: For having no nourishment at all, the vio-
 " lent heate is used against it selfe, and so by it selfe con-
 " sumed: but we determining to overcome it by the
 " contrary, it may fall out, that instead of extinguish-
 " ing it, the force of it may be much increased, if the
 " contrary be subdued by the same: And therefore the
 " *Florentines* then, and not before, quenched the fire of
 " the *Pison* rebellion, when they tooke away the fewell
 " and nourishment from it, which came from stran-
 " gers, by cutting off Princes their Collegates, and
 " the gaining their Citie in one action; which other-
 " wise all their owne force, and their Confederates
 " would not have been sufficient to obtaine. The other
 " is; for if *England* with her succours which shee send-
 " eth, not onely maintaineth the *Netherlands* secure,
 " with the bare hope of her shadow: for they count
 " themselves in banishment, as it were, while they see
 " before their eyes the *Spanish* forces; and so would still
 " doe, if they did not know the *English* will alwaies
 " be ready to buckle with any one, that with a mighty
 " Fleet should passe by these parts. In this respect the

Athe-

“ *Athenians* thought themselves sure from *Phillips*
 “ force, while the Towne of *Obinson* stood out; and so
 “ on the contrary, when the *Olinsons* were overcome,
 “ then saw they no impediments that could keepe the
 “ enemy from them. Even so, if *England* should fall
 “ into the hands of your Majestie, the whole founda-
 “ tion of the Rebels obstinacy were shaken, the for-
 “ tresse and backe being removed, by favour of which
 “ they haue dayly nourished the spirits of pride and in-
 “ solencie: so as the soule and spirit yeeldeth *England*,
 “ being taken away; we may perceiue that the conquest
 “ of the *Netherlands* is easily brought forth by the vic-
 “ torie, as her lawfull daughter; and that the end fol-
 “ loweth not as the daughter, or as the other being her
 “ mother, but even as inseparably, as the shadow
 “ the body, or nourishment the life. As also this rea-
 “ son which I will now recite, is infallibly grounded
 “ upon the direct rule of Art Militarie: which is, that
 “ you ought never to imploy your selfe in the assault
 “ of any place, if their remaine still at your backe a
 “ mighty meanes of some disturbance: Wherefore it
 “ is no sound deliberation to fasten first on the enter-
 “ prise of the *Netherlands*; when you leaue one ill-
 “ affected on your back, which peradventure may sud-
 “ denly assail and break through in the midst of the Ca-
 “ tholike Army, in the heart of the warres with the
 “ *Netherlands*. *Charles* the 5, his attempt in *Province*
 “ had unhappy successe, for no other cause but that he
 “ contemned the advise of the Marquis *Masse*: which
 “ was, that first, before any thing, he should expugne
 “ the fortresse. But that resolution being not taken by
 “ *Charles*, was no lesse pernicious to the Imperialists

“ then to the Author of that Councell, *Antonio de*
“ *Leva*. Another reason is, attempting the warre up-
“ on the *Netherlands*, you come to buckle with braue
“ experienced Souldiers, and men brought up in
“ warre; as on the contrary, the *English* want Art
“ and Discipline Millitarie. I may giue the same
“ comparifon, that may be made betweene Idleneffe
“ and Experience; armed and unarmed; and how
“ advantageous it is to fight with unskilfull Souldiers:
“ Amongst many other; the example of *Meliades*,
“ in the fiede of *Manashon*, sheweth evidently;
“ who with lesse then ten thousand braue Souldiers,
“ put to flight the force of unhappy *Xerxes*, who
“ had more then six hundred thousand with him. An
“ other is, that the *Netherlands* must be conquered by
“ handfulls, and haue full, or whole Armes employ-
“ ed in beleagering this or that Fort; otherwise per-
“ adventure of no great importance; but as it may
“ be a stop to his course of victory, that goeth about
“ to seiz upon the Country. Whereas contrarily *Eng-*
“ *land* hath no strong Towres or Fortresses, as well
“ within as without: there is no doubt of that en-
“ terprise, and is as much more easie then this; as it is
“ a lesse matter to overcome them that doe not
“ resist, then those that doe fight upon warlike
“ advantages. There is no better example to bee pro-
“ duced to your Highnesse, then of the selfe same
“ Countrie of the *Netherlands*; in which, notwith-
“ standing that your Majestie hath placed such
“ strong Garrisons, yet in every step such prevaileant
“ accidents doe occurre, that oftentimes the Assay-
“ lants are overcome, by the often oppositions that
these

“ these Fortresses use towards them : Even as on the
“ contrary, the Kingdome of *Portugal*, there being
“ no convenient Fortresses to giue impediment
“ to the forces of the Souldiers, were suffered to
“ enter into the very heart of the land; they being
“ not able to make any maner of defences to
“ defend the same. Another reason is, for that the
“ Fortresses are as prejudiciall to the Assaylants, after
“ they haue obtained them, as they were before, by
“ reason the Conquerour is forced to distribute his
“ Army into many members, by which they are great-
“ ly weakned. So that, by this that hath been spoken,
“ it may appeare, that it is much more convenient; nay,
“ as it seemeth, much more easie for your Highnes to
“ push at *England* then the *Netherlands*; and therefore I
“ will discourse of that Enterprise; not in comparison
“ of the other, as heere tofore I haue done, but in respect
“ of it selfe; manifesting certaine principles, which doe
“ better declare and make manifest the opportunity &
“ facility therof. In my opinion therefore it is a thing not
“ to be doubted, if medicine is then truely so called
“ wholesome, when it hath reference, not onely to the
“ offended part or member, but further to cut off the
“ roote of the euill. And therefore if your Majesty shall
“ enter into the conquest of the *Netherlands*, you but
“ peradventure cure the wounds of that rebellion, but
“ you shall not evacuate the causes of the beginnings of
“ these ill humors, which haue dayly sent nourishment
“ to the disease: considering *England* is the place which
“ hath given sustenance to the rebellious States. And
“ though these Provinces were yours for this present,
“ disposition; yet what can that be, in a body subject to

"continuall suggestion of matter, which in it owne na-
 "ture presenteth in the stomack some portion of offen-
 "siue humour: Your Majestie must therfore necessari-
 "ly assault *England*; to the end you may afterwards ei-
 "ther securely digest, or evacuate these concourses:
 "But to discourse more at large of the facility of the
 "enterprise; I deny not truely but that *England* is a
 "very mighty Kingdome; and the greatest Iland that
 "ever wee finde any mention made of by the Anci-
 "ents, seeing it containeth *Scotland* within the same,
 "running 2000 miles in a circuit, although our mo-
 "derne Writers make a computation of 200 lesse. By
 "Nature it hath beene favoured with a security of a
 "wall, or with a rampart: but yet notwithstanding
 "it is most true, that the reputation that that Iland
 "holderth in warlike actions, is rather grounded on
 "that it was in time past, then that which it hath at
 "this present: and therefore as it often happeneth,
 "the minde growne great, with the bundles of ima-
 "ginations wherewith it is maintained, though the
 "foundation whereon it dependeth be changed, and
 "diminished: Yet for all that, is the estimation of
 "*England* great in our mindes, because wee all behold
 "it with the selfe same eye of consideration, as wee
 "are wont to doe at all other times; when as in an-
 "cient, for succession of more then 300 yeares, it
 "possessed *Normandie, Britaine, Guienne and Gascoigne*,
 "and made *Scotland* tributary, and for a long time
 "enjoyed the most part of the Kingdome of *France*,
 "upon which *Henry* the 6, was publicly crowned
 "at *Paris*. But those that haue diligently observed
 "her now when shee is deprived of so great forces
 and

“and aide, will judge that she is greater through
“the reputation of her ancient fame, then for the
“quality of her present power and force: and that
“shee is now no more *England*, so grievous and ter-
“rible to the greatest Princes of *Europe*; and since
“that with so unhappy a resolution shee fell into ob-
“scurity, shee hath beene driven of necessity to sub-
“mit her selfe to those fearefull things, which altera-
“tion of Religion and faith draw after them. A most
“mighty and prevaillent meanes to the ruine and de-
“clination of States: For if Religion be the onely
“base of all the peoples obedience and loyalty, who
“doubteth, but that being removed, all rule of life
“goeth to the ground; and together all lawes, both
“Divine and Humane haue dispensation. In which
“parties, or rather habites, of this most pernicious
“beast, are most miserable, how much the mutations
“haue beene sudden and violent; as aboue all other,
“these of *England* haue beene, which from the height
“of Religion threw it selfe headlong into the depth
“of Infidelity; from whence rising againe into the
“Catholike light from whence it came; and a fresh
“to fall ruinously into the darknesse of heresie:
“which is so prejudiciall unto States, as there is no
“greater pestilencie; or that more weakens the soli-
“dity of their forces. *England* therefore in these out-
“ragious stormes must needs haue suffered ship,
“wrack, of which we may plainely see the effects,
“if wee doe but obserue shee hath lost the foundati-
“on, whereupon no lesse her reputation, then secu-
“rity was grounded: that is, shee hath lost the power
“and authority which sometimes shee had in sea-
affaires:

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“affaires; for in times past this Iland maintained a
“great number of Shippes, and kept a continuall
“Fleete of Armes, whereupon it came to passe; that
“minding to try the strength of her owne forces, the
“preparation was admirable; amongst others wee
“may see that when *Henry* the sixth of *England*,
“went against *Charles* the sixth of *France*, with neere
“eight hundred great Ships, which made a bridge
“over the Ocean: but the quantity of that Iland is
“so diverse, and changed, that since the dayes of
“*Henry* seventh and eighth, it hath not beene able to
“maintaine one hundred ordinary Ships; which it was
“wont to wey, and haue in readinesse for the secu-
“rity of the State: and further, this Iland hath been
“put to such pinches, that they haue not onely beene
“constrained to diminish, but to sell out-right a great
“part of their Shipping, which both was, and is,
“their onely securitie from forraigne danger: so
“much more urgent in Princes is feare of present po-
“verty, then the respect of their future safety. So that
“now, comming to resolute on the point of facility,
“that your Majesty shall now finde in that Enter-
“prise against this Iland, I will offer to your Highnesse
“two principall heads; the one of the Defendant,
“the other of the Assaylant, whereby I will shew, that
“the assayed is as unable to defend, as the Defend-
“ant is to assaile. As for the Defendant (which is
“the Kingdome of *England*) it may certainly be aver-
“red, that it cannot stand out in defensiu warre
“against the forces of your Majestie, if you will
“but invade it with the provisions, which is easie
“for you to compasse, and such as the Enter-
prise

"prise, and importance of the action requirerh, the
 "which I will cleerely shew for diuers respect. The
 "first is; because, as I haue said, the Ile of *England* is
 "poore; and therefore is her debility such, as if she
 "should go about to manage a defensiu war against
 "so mighty and potent, as your Catholike Majestie,
 "she might as well goe about to sustaine heaven
 "on her shoulders, being neither *Atlas* nor
 "*Atlas*. The second is, for the consideration of
 "the necessitie which possesseth there the State of
 "*England*; hath no more in readinesse such num-
 "ber of shippes as were sometimes maintained for
 "the protection and security of their Kingdome.
 "Therthird is, that the Kingdom of *England*, by care-
 "lesnesse neglected, or by pouertie omitted, to
 "haue alwayes in readinesse; prepared, or practi-
 "sed Men, Armes, or provision, as all other
 "Princes haue, to the end they may be a present re-
 "medy to all suddain Insurrections, which groweth
 "either at home or abroad. The fourth is, because
 "the desire of Innovation is proper to the King-
 "dome, whose mindes doe alwaies aspire after
 "change; and whosoever doth not obserue for-
 "mer histories, will judge that her seditious con-
 "spiracies, and every other effect of a disturbed and
 "moving minde, haue had their proper nest; being
 "stirred up with considerations, which being accom-
 "panied with the ordinary dispositiō of the people
 "to be alwaies attempting of new things, may ea-
 "sily of a suddaine, if it were assaulted; put the
 "Realme into confusion; especially when the Ar-
 "my of so mightie an enemy as your Majestie,

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shall

"I shall present it selfe, whereby rebels may liberally
 "discover their hearts without being chastised. So as
 "this people being any way ill-affected, which meet-
 "ing with their manner of disposition, may perad-
 "venture easily give occasion, if your Majesty had
 "no party in *England*, which you shall never faile off
 "to some vnlooked for action, if your Catholik Ar-
 "mies did but shew themselves. It being so ordina-
 "ry a matter with that people, whe they are masked
 "with some great passion, either of hatred or disdain
 "towards them that governe, that they will be ever
 "ready to take all courtes in hand that may be hurtful
 "to him: Even so that *Tantanius* discontented with
 "government of *Caius Iberius*, brought in before his
 "face the *Carthaginians*. First, the *English* in respect
 "of their ancient greatnesse, haue bin more accusto-
 "med to molest others, then to be molested them-
 "selves; and when they shall see themselves over-
 "whelmed, as it were with an innumeration of braue
 "Souldiers and Captaines, they will grow wonder-
 "fully attonied: even as that change of fortunes
 "countenanc is a terrible spectacle to those to whom
 "this sight is vnusuall: for by that meanes *Greece*
 "which was sometimes Emperesse of the whole East;
 "fell suddenly into other mens hands; who of an
 "Assaylant, became assayled. And lastly, though
 "nature get thus much in behalfe of them, that *Eng-
 "land* be well furnished with Armes, men, victuals,
 "and ships, and whatsoever else is necessary for the
 "warres; yet (say I) all this is nothing, when the
 "quality and condition is wanting, which giueth
 "form and essence to all enterprises; which is money
 "which

" which the Kingdom of *England*, no lesse through
 " the scarcity of Revenues, as by the charge of ordi-
 " nary expences is brought unto; which they shall
 " never be able to recover, by their trades and Com-
 " merce, if the use of the sea be taken from them :
 " and therefore will never be able to supply expence
 " of a defensiv Army Royall, when it hath scarcely
 " enough to supply their own necessities, especially
 " against so great and magnificent a Prince as your
 " most Catholike Majestie, who embraceth within
 " the circuits of your Dominions, the whole Diame-
 " ter of the earthly Globe, and possesseth more
 " land at this day, then all the Monarchs and Repub-
 " liques of the world haue : A most opulent Prince
 " in Armes, Men, Mony, Souldiers, Captains, Ships,
 " Victuals, and all other provision of warre : and a
 " Prince, who like a Moderator, or Arbitrator, seem-
 " eth to hold in his hands, the bridle of Empire, both
 " of the sea & land. And whereas it may be objected
 " that the Gallies which doe you no service in that
 " expedition; being vessels of great consequence in
 " battels by sea : your enterprise of *Portugal*, and of
 " the Iland, if it did not quite remoue it; yet did it
 " so much abate the superstitious credulity of ours, that
 " those Vessels are not good at any time to passe the
 " Ocean withall, as if there were no faire weather in
 " that sea in the Summer; or that faire weather were
 " abortive in shipping : there is no doubt but that
 " Gallies may securely passe, & hazard themselves in
 " that Sea in the Summer, for three moneths. And
 " those that will object the contrary, by the over-
 " throw of the sea ther, let them be contented to ob-
 " serve

"serue well, that the same Anchor met not with
 "no inward, but outward occasion, in the sea of that
 "overthrow: For *Cesar* ignorantly could not dis-
 "cerne the time of the Moon which was then in the
 "full, and being mistaken by reason of her too much
 "humidity, doth use to disturb, not onely the
 "Ocean, but all the coasts, and the dominion shee
 "holdeth of the salt waters. And therefore in respect
 "of the great honesty and equity accompanying the
 "cause; with it so honourable and godly life, as
 "the planting the Christian faith and religion,
 "no obstacle can be sufficient to stay the force of
 "divine power, serving under the stander of
 "Christ; and therefore most weake, and but a
 "shadow shall all humane helpe bee which shall
 "oppose it selfe against the will of the great Ar-
 "bitrator. But such as are the pretensions of your
 "Majestie over this Kingdome, and such the obli-
 "gations wherein you stand bound for the recovery
 "of your own, the title of a Grandfather and Prede-
 "cessours of famous memorie; as there is no en-
 "terprise so peculiar and proper for you to under-
 "take as this: for that you goe not onely to pos-
 "sesse your selfe of the right which you haue
 "to this Kingdome, but likewise to make your
 "selfe the most famous King that ever was in the
 "memory of all the Princes of the world; adding
 "by this meanes unto the Crowne of *Spain*, a
 "Kingdome so illustrious, so mightie, and so fa-
 "mous.

By the relation of the *Spanish* project, against this
 State of *England*, most Illustrious Princce, may well
 appeare

appeare unto your Highnesse, that the *Spaniard* himselfe well knowes, that there is no way for the expectation of his further Greatnesse; no great possession of the high Monarchy, which he himselfe alledgeth that he already enjoyeth, but the conquering of this Ile, and adding it to the Crown of *Spain*; and therefore, if he had any other meanes to attaine to this, by him so violently longed for, then by a peace: why should not your Majestie thinke, that the peace hee meanes to make with you at this time, is for that purpose, and for no other intent? And therefore, my good Lord, I cannot, as one standing upon the firme land, gaze upon the shipwrack of my Countrie, being so doubtfully tossed, and floting in the dangerous sea of dissention, betwixt peace and warre, with one that will make a peace with you, for no other end and purpose, but that hee may bee the better able to make warre heereafter against you. But to cast out the last anchor hold of my selfe, which is boldnesse and freenesse of speech to you (my most renoumed Sovereigne) to prevent if I can these extreame and certaine dangers, wherein both your Selfe, your States, and glory of the English and Scottish names, are likely to be plunged, when the *Spaniards* ability shall be such, as there shall bee no let, but his good nature, to insult over you: which howsoever your Highnesse, or others, thinke contrary, will in foure or five yeares, if he enjoy his *Indies* be brought to passe. Surely, my gracious Sovereign, I am of opinion against *Philip* of *Spain*, in the behalfe of my Countrie,

as that noble Common-wealths man *Demoſthenes*, against *Phillip* of *Macedon* in behalfe of the *Athenians*, which no doubt hath much affinity with our caſe at this time. For *Phillip* ſeeing whiſt he had warre with *Athens* (at which he principally aimed) hee could never overcome the other Provinces of *Thebeans*, *Lacedemonians*, *Theſſalians*, *Ibocians*, *Ointans*, and the reſt, and till they were overcome he could never get *Athens*, began to take another courſe: which was, to bribe with mony and gifts, Councellours or Orators of that State to be of his ſide; and by that means to be ſecure from the forces of that Republique or Common-wealth, till he had, by one and one, overcome the reſt. But good *Demoſthenes* perceived him by and by, and warned the *Thebeans* of that Treason; but theſe traitors of *Phillip*s faction being grown great in the Citie, by meanes of the bounty they had daily received for rewards of their treason; as alſo the *Athenians* were then, as we are now, not willing to heare of any warres or change to be brought againſt them; which alwayes theſe Traitors joyne with the multitude, in aſſuring them that *Phillip* of *Macedon* meant them no harm, was the onely cauſe that all the other Provinces aforenamed were overcome; but alſo the noble and ſtately Citie by him and *Antepator* his ſucceſſour. And therefore ſince that like examples, whiſt the world doth laſt, will bring forth like effects, I will be of *Demoſthenes* minde; if ſince we cannot ſhunne the warres with *Spain*, either at this time, or hereafter, when he hath made himſelfe more ſtrong; either by the conqueſt of his neighbours, or other wiſe: that you ſhould begin with him whiſt you

you haue the advantage of him; and then you shall by prooffe finde how profitable it will be unto you; when you must needs doe a thing, to doe it with a courage and cheerfulness, and forasmuch as there is no man of another minde, but that we shall haue the King of *Spain*, by so much more our mighty enemy, the greater Princes suffer him to be. Oh why be we so backward, or why linger you oh noble King, the great Commander of the braue spirits of the *English* and *Scottish* Nation, to doe that in reason and necessity you ought? Our fathers, when they were Masters but of one part of the Ile, were never wont to feare any thing in matters of war, but if the skie should fall upon them, sailed over many a Sea to make their weapons glister in the bowels of other Kingdomes; being by the honesty of their actions, and noblenesse of their courage assured. And shall your Majesty, by whose blessed arrival to this part of your Ancestors, & having brought home once again in your ship of Vnion, our brethren and kinsmen, no lesse valiant then our selues, being defended from the blood of our Ancestours, and turned from us by the iniquity of time, and dissensions of some malicious persons of either part; which we must not account proceeded by consent of both people; neither measure the intents of great nations according to the notable wickednesse of some particulars? Shall you I say, who hath renewed again the ancient fame of this Ile (by which, for Valour, for Men, for Munitions, for Engines, for Warre, no Princee under heaven can lightly compare) be doubtfull to undertake a warre to which you are so necessarily incited; as well for the

the glory of God, the advancement of Christian Religion in all parts; as also your particular safety, which can never be certaine to You, nor us your posterity, but by the abatement of the Spanish greatnesse, by meanes whercof many murders, massacres, and rebellions haue been made in Europe. No no (my renoumed Sovereigne) be it far from your magnanimous mind, to harbour a thought so unworthy that vertue, that shineth so apparant in all mens eyes; but rather since the nature of the Countries, the inclination of the Subjects, and the valours of the people, doe seeke to overcome the violence of the enemies; let them be seconed by the Kingly command, under which word, there is no question of victorie. Your Predecessours of famous memory, undertook these warres upon discreet, and premeditated considerations; not onely chewed for many yeares together, but likewise digested by the experience of time, Conclusions of the *Spaniards* part of diuers things against this State, & probability of many more dangers like to ensue, both against the people and country: And therefore (most renoumed Sovereign) if the addition you adde in your owne Greatnesse and Person, to this your right inheritance of *England*, be not sufficient to alter the consideration of your former policies, in my minde; you ought to be well advised, before you stray from the pathes of your Predecessours, who built their only safety upon the preservation of the *Netherlands*, and abatement of the *Spaniards* Greatnesse, as by diuers excellent reasons, wherupon they undertook openly these warres, may appear. But perhaps it may be said, that the person of
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the Prince doth alter the pretence of the enemy I hope I shall neede to say little on that point, to so highly wise, learned and juditious a Lord, as your Highnesse; especially when it is apparant to your Majesty, that the *Spaniards* build their certain Greatnesse upon no one thing so much, as the ruin and destruction of this land, as by their foregoing projects appearcth. But moreover, if they could not loue the Princes of their blood, race, and kindred; as the King of *Naples*, *Cicily* and *Navarre*, whom they not onely deposed from their Kingdomes, but likewise some of them from their liues, under no pretence of reason or justice, but onely thirsting after blood and Seigniories, I shall infinitely mistrust his regard of the safety of your noble and fortunate Issue. And if your Majesty will goe by precedent (which is most fit to most actions that doe minister themselves to men) and but examine how the Monarchy of *Spaine* hath but raised himselfe to his Greatnes, you shall no doubt perceiue (by comparing time past, with that which is like to follow) the irrecoverable dangers you are like to fall into, by making peace with them, that for advantage will hold it Religion to breake with you. And for that, from *Ferdinand* of *Aragons* time they haue begun to render themselves so fearfull to their neighbours, which as it were yesterday, your Highnes may acquaint your self with their unjust actions, which are fresh in memory to their unchristianlike wounds, given to many Christian Princes, still bleeding; whereby you may the better discern and distinguish them. For as *Ferdinand* himselfe, which was the roote from whence their Princes sprang, ther was no King in his

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time

time more unjust, more cruell, or more bloudy, thirsting after blood, and breach of faith with all Princes, with whom hee had to doe; although they were his Cousen-germaines, his brother in law, his Sisters and Neece; and indeed laid his foundation of the *Spanish* Monarchy upon such base and treacherous foundations: For *Charles* the fifth, how hee behaved himselfe in his time amongst the Princes of Christendome, I cannot more aptly referre your Majestie to a brieve relation thereof, then by an Oration made by a worthy Gentleman, who had particularly acquainted himselfe with the accidents of that time, which hee wrote, and dedicated to the two young Earles of *Emden* long since. For *Phillip* the second, what blood hath hee caused to be shed both in *England, Portugal, France, the Netherlands and Ireland*, is it not knowne to all Christian Princes? Besides, the often seeking of the innocent blood, of that most noble, and thrice renowned Predecessour of famous memory *Elizabeth*, Queene of this land, which if, so it were, there were no other witnesse of his Goatish and Moorish inclination (as there are thousands) were it not enough to enroule and memorize him in the ranke of unworthie and tyrannous Potentates? For *Phillip* the third, although hee be young, yet is hee a *Spaniard*: and whatsoever the wisest of the world haue ever thought of the nature and qualltie of a *Spaniard*, is apparant: For *Francis Guicciardine* (a man so sufficient, as the very reckoning of his very worth and perfections would require

"require a story) faith of them The Spanish
 "Nation are covetous and deceitfull, and where
 "they bee at libertie, exceeding outrageous, ty-
 "rannous, and very proud and insolent. And An-
 "drew . . . a famous Senatour of Venice, faith
 "of them; That they are unfaithfull, ravenous,
 "and the most unsatiable of all Nations : For
 "where is it (faith hee) of all the parts of the
 "world, where these infamous Harpies set their
 "seete, which is not defiled with the foot-steps
 "of most abominable vices; and yet the shot of
 "their Pistols doe so dazell the eyes of many in
 "this land, that they are not ashamed to defend
 "them to be the most noble, most faithfull, and most
 "honourable Nation in the world. Another writes
 "of them; That they are loathsome Swine, thee-
 "vissh Owles, and bragging Peacocks: For (faith
 "he) whosoever would behold the liuely protra-
 "ture of them, without troubling himselfe with
 "the overturning of *Martial* or *Terence*, let him but
 "behold the grim speech of a stately Spaniard. By
 "whom, most mightie Prince, I may well say, and
 "according to truth, that the world of *America*
 "was not so much unknowne to the former ages, as
 "their monstrous outrageous, and new devised cruel-
 "ties, which these divelish and tyrannous Spaniards
 "haue unhumanely practised amongst the simple and
 "innocent people, as appeareth by *Don Bartholmew de*
la Casas Bishop of . . . and other of their own
 "Historiographers. And although my selfe, being
 "a stranger, which haue some time served against
 "them, both in the Indies and elsewhere, could say

much of their cruelties, by relation of such their
flaues as I haue taken, yet for that my eyes haue not
seene them, I will forbare in modesty to charge them;
onely I will relate, from the mouth of a true repor-
ter, a worthy Gentleman of this Land, Sir *Francis*
Drake, one truth; that by that, your Majestie might be
induced to beleue the rest. He once talking with me
“ of the *Indies*, told me, That he being in the South
“ Sea, after he had taken his prize, he had thought to
“ haue ventured to haue come home by the North-
“ ward, and stood his course to the Ile of *Canes*, be-
“ ing 12. degrees of the North latitude, and from
“ thence to *Aqua Palce*, upon the maine, being 16 de-
“ grees, at one of the Poort townes of the Citie of
“ *Mixico*; where going a shore, he found an old *Ne-*
“ *gro*, tyed in a chaine of 20 yards long, which had
“ been condemned by the justice of the place; for that
“ sometimes being oppressed with too much labour,
“ the poor old man would runne into the woods, and
“ absent himsele from his Majesties worke; his sen-
“ tence was, that he should be whipped, with whips,
“ til he was all raw and bloudy; and afterwards being
“ tyed in a chaine to be eaten with flies; which poore
“ soule hee released from that miserable death, and
“ took him away with him: And therefore oh *Turke*,
“ oh *Scythians*, and *Tartarians*, rejoyce yee now all,
“ since now, there is to be found at this day a Nation
“ in Christendome, which by the unhappy and cur-
“ sed behaviour, doe increase the hatred that men
“ haue borne to the barbarous and ungracious cru-
“ elties. And therefore, most renowned Sovereigne,
I should be sory, in regard of the premises, that you
should

should commit so great a fault in the government of the great & mighty Kingdomes, which is not sufferable to a private Captaine over a few souldiers, to say, *I doe not thinke it*: so when hee hath by his owne temerity, or fool-hardinesse, committed an action for want of due respect, to the subjects, undertaken that hath made him disastrous, and unfortunate in his honour, and the times of his people, (which desire rather to giue them received Lawes . . . For the desire of honour to aduance States, and enlarge Kingdomes, is naturally grafted in the hearts of all Princes of noble spirits; and there was never any King, of a worthy and high courage, but desired to leaue to his posterity the memorie of some noble and worthy action (as the *American* world) by doing whereof, you shall not onely procure safety to your selfe, and those that shall succeed you in your Royall Seate, but generall happinesse to so many millions of people, which at this day sit in darknesse and the shadow of death; and is a thing so farre from discomendation or reproach, as you shall be so qualified in all succeeding ages, with the most happy, most gracious, and most fortunate Princes of the world. But yet I doe not deny, but Princes may haue such grounds and reasons to trust some priuate men, or forraigne Princes, as being deceived by them, and they should say, *I neuer would haue thought it*, yet are not worthy of reprehention: as for example; That Prince ought not to bee blamed, that hath put in a Fortresse some one Captaine, or place, in a Countrey som one Prince, either of which haue received goods or honours from him, and yet in the end is betrayed

by them, and heereupon the knowledge thereof should say, I would never haue thought it, that such a man should haue betraied me, that Prince is not to be blamed; as it happened to *Lewis Morre* Duke of *Millaine*, who having committed the Castle of the Citie to one *Damerdine Couet*, whom he had so absolutely raised, and made obliged to him by infinite graces and benefits; yet notwithstanding was by the said *Couet* betrayed to his perpetuall dishonour and-infamie. This Duke was no way to bee blamed. As also your Majestie ought not to be reprov'd, who providing for every mischiese, is assailed by some strange accidents, that was not possible for your Majestie, in judgement or counsell to foresee, or prevent: as being not possible with reason to foresee a thing, which of it selfe is a thing without reason. As for example, was that most grievous accident of the powder, and other munition, prepared to be sent to diverse places before the Castle gate of the said Citie, which tooke fire, and was burnt by lightning from heaven when the weather was faire and cleere, whereby afterwards ensued to the State so many losses and discommodities: upon this occasion, if the Captaine of the Castle should haue said, *I had never thought that this weather would haue brought so great and unfortunate a chance to me*, hee had deserved no reproofe at all. But if before your Majesties eyes, it be apparant, that a manifest knowne enemy to the State, who as *Demosthenes* said, hates the verie Religion of *Athens*, who hath not onely long thirsted after the Seignorie of your Kingdome, in his secret designs;

signes, but likewise by open force of fire and sword hath assailed them; If you will trust such an one, and after upon his breaking say, *You would not have beleev'd that the King of Spaine would have dealt so with you*: Doubtlesse (renowned Sovereigne) the world will not faile to taxe you with such carelesse and improvidence, as I hope shall never haue any affinity with your most Excellent Majestie, or any other of your Royall Off-spring that shall sway the Scepter of this noble Ile. And therefore (my gracious Lord) in my judgement, you ought to doe in this, so great a matter of State, as concluding a peace with so dangerous enemies as the Spanish Nation, as good and wise Carpenters seeme to doe in substantiall buildings, which is, to make a sure foundation, lest by aspiring minde or breach of the enemy you be overthrowne. And whereas he saith in the foregoing project, that hee hath right and good title to the Crowne of *England*, by vertue of his Grandfather and Predecessours (which I know to be otherwise) yet contrarily can I proue your Majestie, by the vertue of your Grandfather of famous memory *Henry the 7*, to bee as rightfull Heire to all the firme land of the *Indies*, as the King of *Spaine* is to the Ilands of *Cuba*, *Iannura* and *Hispaniola*, with the rest of the Ilands of *Lucaies*, *Grante*, and *Antile*: and for that it is not inconvenient fully to take notice, and understand how these Kings intitles themselves & their Successors to the right and Signiories of the *Indies*, I have thought good to set downe my opinion, how many wayes they

they doe, or may take their claim: And first by discovery; secondly, by the Popes gift; thirdly, by consent of the people; fourthly, by conquest and consent. So as if neither of these be able to proue or giue a good and sufficient title (or at least such a one as may barre you and other Princes that will, to inhabite in those parts) I know no reason why your Majestie should not doe as he hath done; that is, to possesse as much as you can of those Heathen Countries; especially where the *Spaniard* is not feared, nor hath no command: whereby you might not onely propagate the Christian faith amongst those Pagans and infidels, as you are bound to doe, as much as you can; but a golden world to the Crowne of *England*: wherby you be more enabled, as well to undertake a forraigne warre against the enemy of the Christian name; as also to make your State the more strong by the *Indian* treasures, against such of your neighbours as shall envie your Highnesse. And therefore to come to this Title: If he claime his interest by possession and first Discovery (which doubtlesse must be the strongest title that he can challenge) then your Majestie hath as much title for all the firme land of the Indies, as he hath for these Ilands before named. As for proove of this, the Captaines of *Henry* the 7, being *Sebastian Cabot*, and his companions, discovered the land of the *Indies*, on the north part of the *Indies*, from 60 degrees, coasting the north latitude; the very year before *Christian Columbus* discovered the high land of *Dania*, on the south part of the *Indies*; which was the first day that ever the *Spaniards* saw the maine, and tooke possession of that new Discovery in the behalfe of *Henry* the

the 7, and his successours their Lord and Master. So as if first Discovery and Possession be his Title, your Majestie preceding him in that said Title, must necessarily precede him in the right thereof. If he claime it by the gift of Pope *Alexander* the sixth, then it must be argued whether the said Pope had power to giue it, yea, or no; if not, then the gift is voide in it selfe: if yea, he must proue it either by Divine or Humane Argument; for Humane he cannot, for that no way belonged to him, or any other Christian Prince or Potentate, at that time; nor were so much as ever heard of, before that present Discovery of *Columbus*, upon which the gift was made in the yeare of grace 1492. All things never knowne to him, or his Ancestors, can no way of right belong to him or them; so as not belonging to him, directly or by circumstance, hee had no right to giue or dispose thereof, either in present or future; and thus for Humane. For Divine Arguments; if he say he gaue them as Christs Vicar, whereby he may dispose of Kings or Kingdoms, he must proue that authority by the word of God, or else we are not bound to beleue him, or thinke his gift of any value. As for example, if hee be but Christs seruant here on earth, hee must challenge to himselfe no more prerogative then his Master tooke on him whilst he was on earth; for if hee doe, it is a great token of pride and arrogancie. And our Saviour being but requested to make a lawfull diuision of a certaine inheritance betwixt one and his brother, refused to doe it; saying, *Who made me a Iudge over you?* as also he confessed openly to *Pilate*, That his *Kingdome is not of this world*. Why then doth

the Pope, who acknowledgeth himselfe to be no better then his servant, take upon him the giuing of so many Kingdomes of this world. But the Pope, say they, gaue *Ireland* to *Henry* the 2, and his successours: and indeed they did so in word; but when had he it? when he had fast footing in it, and when *Dermittus* the King of *Lemster* had made the King of *England* his Heire. But for all that donation, had not the Kings of this land, but the sharpnesse of the sword more prevailed, then by this gift, the Popes donatiō had stood in little stead; neither did the rest of the Irish Kings admit or allow of the Popes Donation; for if they had, they would never haue rebelled so often against this Crowne. But to conclude this point; though we confesse, that the Popes haue done this or that, yet it is no good argument, in my opinion, to say that they did it, and therefore it was lawfull, unlesse they could shew they did it rightfully. But the Popes gift of the West Indies, may well be compared to the Sermon of Iudge *Molineux* his Chaplin in Queen *Maries* dayes, who would make it appeare, by a lively text out of the Scripture to his Parishioners, what a lying knaue the diuell was: and for his Text, he tooke the place where the diuell tooke Christ and carried him up to the mountaine, from whence he shewed him all the Kingdoms of the world; & told him, if he would fall downe and worship him, he would giue them all unto him. "My Masters (quoth he) by this you may well perceiue what a lyer he is; for he had no more right to haue given him these Kingdomes (if he would haue fallen down and worshipt him,) then my selfe, that am now in the Pulpit. If I should say to you all
now;

“ now; Sirs, if you will all fall downe and worship
 “ me, before I goe out of the Church, I will giue eve-
 “ ry man his Copie-hold for ever; which if I should
 “ doe, I should giue you your livings in words: But
 “ my Masters (quoth he) that sit there below to
 “ whom they belong, would take them from you
 “ againe: and therefore (saith he) if he had given all
 “ these Kingdomes to Christ, the Kings of the earth,
 “ to whom by right they did pertaine, would never
 “ haue suffered him to haue injoyed them. And so for
 that,—*For the earth is the Lords, and all that dwell therein,*
he founded and prepared it, as in the Psalmist: and so
 consequently, neither the Popes, nor the diuils, doe
 dispose to whom they please. The copie of which
 foolish donation of the Popes, truely translated out
 of the originall, hath beene delivered to your Maje-
 stie long since, and (I hope) perused before this
 time. To proue that he hath no generall consent of
 all the people and Nations of the *Indies*, appeareth
 most evidently, by this reason; for that no *Spaniard*
 farther inhabiteth northward then *Florida*, where
 they haue but two little Forts or Villages, the one
 called *S. Austine*, the other *S. Helena*: All the rest
 of that hugh tract, whose infinitenesse is such, (as no
 mortall tongue can expresse, nor eye hath seene,) doe
 not so much as think there is another world but that
 they themselues inhabite, except some few of them
 which dwell vpon the edges of the shore, that some-
 times see both us, the *French*, the *Dutch*, and the *Spa-
 niard*, when we come a fishing, but are not able to
 distinguish of us, but thinke us all one people: then
 how can we imagine, that these people haue freely

given themselves to the Spanish obedience, and acknowledge him for their Lord and King, when they never so much as heard that there was such a man or Nation. Again, from *Capi culli formia*, all the land that runneth and maketh the strait of *Anian*, and the Netherlands thereof, whose bounds and limits are never discovered; the *Spaniard* hath not so much as once seated himselfe to make himselfe knowne, whereby there might bee any likelyhood that they had acknowledged him for their Sovereigne. And for us to beleue that the *Spaniard* is Lord of such, whom he hath never seen nor known, nor they him, were a manifest signe of a strong faith in us. And there were no way for any man to make me beleue Miracles sooner, then by making me beleue this: for after the beliefe of this, I should never doubt of any miracle, though he should tell me a thousand in a day: So that if this title come not by consent of all in generall, he neither ought to write himselfe Lord of the whole Indies, nor debar other Christians from conquering or trading in those parts where the *Spaniard* hath neither residence nor Seigniorie, nor command. If he challenge right by conquest and consent then must he claime no more, then he hath by conquest and consent obtained. As for example, all that part of the West Indies, which at this day is scatteringly inhabited by the *Spaniards* & *Portugals*, is almost contained in two Tropicks, excepting the two small Villages of *Saint Augustine* and *Helena* in *Florida*, the Province of new *Biscay* Northwards, and five Villages or Townes neere the River of *Plate*, called *Santo Spirito*, *Saint Anna*, the
Citic

Citie of *Ascension*, Saint *Fee* and *Environ*, lyeth halfe way betwixt the mouth of the river of *Blaze*, and the Mine of *Polefia*; and in the South Sea beyond the Tropick, in the Kingdome of *Chelix*; the Townes or Villages of *Coquenbo Persco*, Saint *Jago la impetulla del Lago*. And therefore, if the Spaniards haue nothing to doe any further; either on the Northward or to the Southward; what reason hath he to forbid any Nation to conquer or dwell there? But if hee should admit you, I thinke it not convenient that your Majestie should be so satisfied; for so should you doe your selfe, and other Christian Princes, great wrong: for his Townes and Castles are so divided, and such masses of land and Kingdom betwixt them, which he hath no right, nor dare to enter as being duely considered by your Majestie, hee ought not to claime no more, then he ought to claime the Kingdome of *France*, because his Fort of *Graueling* is of one side, and South *Arabia* on the other, *France* being in the midst betweene them; or to claime *France*, because his Frontiers in *Italy* bound it on the one side, and *Spain* on the other: or to claime the Iland of the *Venetians* and the *Turks* in *Levant*; for that *Cicilia* and *Sardinia*, and a few others belong to him, that stands in that Sea: Or claime all the Ilands or Shoares in *Barbarie*, for that he hath a Castle or two in the *Straits*, and another in *Libia*. These Countries they never lay claime to, because they are in the eye of the Christian world; which would make us rise up in Armes against them for their foolish arrogancy, if they should pretend it: But in the unknowne parts, which haue been familiar unto us, whose sight by the

iniquity of the time, and troublesome warres in these parts, haue to us beene hidden; although to the Ancient well knowne, where they began their foolerie. Betwixt the Castle of *Argine* in *Lilia*, and the Iland of *Macao* in the river of *Canton*, in the Kingdome of *China*, the toolish *Portugals* say all is theirs, when many a hundred Kings (as absolute and powerfull in regard of people, as any King in these parts) dwelleth betwixt, and admit the *Portugals* by way of petition or bribes, to dwell in some place by the Sea side, and trafique with them; neither dare they lay claime to any Kingdome; but onely to such Fortresses, Factories and Villages, on the Sea side, as perforce and favour of the Iland they are admitted to dwell in, as most excellently appeareth by answer of *Charles* the fifth, made unto the Embassadors of *Portugal*, anno 1522, when they came to require and beseech him, that his subjects the *Spaniards*, might not trade nor commerce, as then they did, in the conquest or navigation of the *Portugals*; who after a most peremptory and noble answer of his part, told
 “them he knew no reason, neither would he suf-
 “fer them, that his subjects should be prohibited free-
 “ly, to passe into any country where the hope of gain
 “offereth it selfe; and that if the *Portugals* in the
 “cause of their Trade, should doe any violence to
 “any of his people, either in their persons or goods,
 “he would be revenged neerer home, meaning upon
 “the Kingdome of *Portugal*. With which answer, at
 that time, the *Lucitans* were forced to depart. Which
 answer, if it should please your Majestie to returne
 upon the *Castilians* themselves, at this time, I know no
 reason

reason how it can any way be bettered, having so good a president, as their owne King against the *Portugals*, upon the same subiect. But for the *Portugals*, where all their strength is seated, I meane upon the coast of *Malubar*, where they haue more Forts and Castles, then in all *India* besides; the Kings doe so pen and locke them vp in their Garrisons and Forts, as they can haue nothing the Countrie yeeldeth, but by their friendship procured by yearly bribes; As for example, to the King of *Cathie*, they pay an yearly tribute of 256000 Reis; to the King of *Pimenta* 36000 Reis; to the mother of the King of *Pimenta* yearly 36000 Reis; to the King of *Pargnan* yearly 72000; to the King of *Mansata* yearly 72000 Reis; to *Carta Babua*, the proper name of a man of account upon the coast, an yearly tribute of 42000 Reis; to the *Terasates*, which are brethren and Kings, an yearly tribute of 72000 Reis. All which summes or tribute, are imposed upon the King, and Custome of goods, brought from these parts. As for their credit and reputation amongst these Heathens, it is so small, either for feare they haue of them, or loue they beare to them, that, when wee, and the *Hollanders* pay no Custome for goods bought and solde there, they make the *Portugals* pay 30 *per* hundred, we going free before their faces, and they paying before ours.

By this, your Majestie may well perceiue, what base account the Princes in those parts make of them there; and yet these vainglorious Woodcocks, will be very angry with us, if we will not beleecue, when they say, that all the *East Indies* is theirs, and they haue

haue conquered it. In selfe manner (most renowned Sovereigne) stand the Kings of the West *Indies* with the *Spaniards*, both in the South sea, upon the Kingdome of *Cheley*, *Resa*, *Peru*, and others; as at this time is apparant by the Kings of *Cheley*, who hath within this few yeares beaten down the *Spaniards* and wonne from them the Towne of *Impettal*, wherein was wont to be placed and maintained one of the greatest Garrisons of the South Sea; and not onely razed it to the ground, but likewise kild and driven the *Castilians* quite from them. Even so, upon the East and North part of the *Indies*, both upon the Coast of *Brazil*, with all the firm land upon the *Indies* from *Parahia* to *Cartagene*, the gulse of *Vraba*, the gulse of *Mixico*, and all alongst the Coast of *Bahana*, even to their Forts in *Florida*, they are in continuall warres with the Kings and peoples of those lands. And surely under your Highnesse pardon, I am confident of this opinion, that it hath been a maine policie of the Kings of *Spaine*, for these many yeates, to keep us in continual warres one with another in these parts; or if not, to encourage us himselfe; whereby being forced to looke to our home defences, wee might not haue meanes to discover these his invasions abroad, whereby he puts a maske before all the Princes eyes of Europe. And therefore since hee is now layd open, and by no Nation so much as by your Majesties subjects of this land; I hope, for the prevention of future mischiefe against this State, as for other honourable respects, and prevalent Reasons, in challenging of that which is your owne; or at least as much yours as his; you will not bee unmindful

mindfull; which doubtlesse will not tend onely to the enlightning of many soules; which to this day haue fate in the shadow of death, but likewise lay a ground (as before said) for the safety and preservation of your States, Glorie, Person and Posterity, in despite of the Spanish treacheries in the time to come, which otherwise by no meanes, by the wit of mortall man can be prevented, as upon my life, by circumstances I will make apparant.

But least this field of reasoning, whereinto I haue walked, be too tedious unto your Highnesse, I will briefly end; referring my selfe to Argument with any one, against this mischievous and poysonous peace with *Spaine*, which I doe see, cannot but proue very fatall to your Majestie and Common-wealth. And though I be not called, yet considering I am your subject, I cannot forbear, in respect of my great and loyall affection to your Majestie, the Prince, with the rest of the noble Issue, and my native Countrey, I cannot but presume to speake of such things, which I thinke now fit to be considered; especially at this time: even as *Marcarié Gataner*, Chancellour of *Spaine*, did against the peace that was concluded betwixt *Francis* the first, and *Charles* the Emperour his Master; for he seeing that the Emperour was disposed to make peace with the said King, and to set him at libertie, and that the *Viceroy* of *Naples*, and all other the Lords of the Councell tended to the same; and although he knew, as I do now, that his counsell would not be accepted, yet failed he not to speake what he thought; but likewise refused, being great Lord Chancellour of *Spaine*, to signe the Articles,

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which

which hee defended with most excellent reasons, which reasons are well delivered, and with much gravity of speech by *Quiccardine* in the oration of the said *Grataner*. But this event made it knowne, that the counsell of *Grataner* was most noble, most just, and grounded as well upon the high wisdom, as great zeale to the loue and good of his Countrey. For as soon as the King was at liberty, all the *Spaniards* wonderfull hopes that they expected of this peace, and all the *French Kings* great promises to them vanished into smoake, according to the opinion of that worthy Gentleman. And I know no reason (most noble Sovereigne) that I being your subject, as hee was the King of *Spaines*, and loving you and my Countrey, as much as ever hee did his, and having a subject of the same quality, to feare, as hee did them; although I may well say, as much more danger to us by the *Spaniards*, if our peace be not built upon a sure foundation, then it could any way be unto them by the French. But to speake my opinion, make what Articles you will, and let them be guilded over with the fairest shew, either they, or those of their Faction (if you haue any about you) can devise; unlesse these foure be granted on their part to you, you can never make any sure peace with them; or at least such a peace, as if he haue the minde to breake, hee will haue the advantage of you. And *Phillip Comines* saith, That for the many conclusions that hee hath scene in his time in the affaires of State, that it were inexcusable folly for a Prince, if hee were able for, to prevent it, to put himselfe under the power of another. 1. That your subjects may haue

have free access to the *Indies*, either to traffique or plant, where the *Spaniards* have neither conquest, Seigniorie, nor tribute. 2. That he doe pull downe all inquisition wheresoever your people shall resort in all his Dominions, and that the Customes be reduced to an ancient order. 3. That he shall never come with a main Army of Ships into these Seas, under colour of chastising the *Hollanders*. 4. That it shall be as lawfull for your subjects to serve the States in warres against them, as it shall be to serve them against the States; these things accorded, your peace may be safe, otherwise not.

*A short view taken of Great Brittain,
and Spaine.*

HIS Majestie now is of more power then any his Predecessours; First, because our addition of Dominion *Ireland*, is reduced to a more absolute state of obedience, and increase of revenue then heretofore. The footing we had in *France*, was rather a greatnesse of trouble to us, then of strength; it was alwayes in division; it held us alwayes in continuall fluxe of treasure and blood, we never attempted in the Front, but that attempted us in the Rear; which did both distract our Armies, and aggravate our charge: It is a Territory so separate from us by nature, as we could not advantage upon it, either for offences or relieve, without the access of difficulty and charge that a State must undergoe, when it runnes the necessity of such an undertaking by sea, where the warre was bent upon a great Conti-

ment, a populous Nation, a plentiful Countrey, and intire in its selfe, and that can be succoured without passing the Seas : In these things we found such disadvantage, as haue beene the undoing of our Expeditions in steed of departure of this broken Dominion we had in *France*, his Majestie hath brought another whole Kingdome to *England*, undivided from us in feare; from whence we haue these benefits. The backe dore that was open in the assistance of our enemies, both to offend us, and divert our attempes from them, is now open to us, and his Majestie hath the key of it, it saveth us the money and the men that we were forced to employ in a second Army for the withstanding the invasion on that side : and not saues it us onely, but renders it, to bestow in undertakings of profit, which we were wont to spend upon defences. We haue another valiant Nation to assist us, whose service in Low Countrey warres hath often, and alwaies, given this testimony of their affection and faithfulnessse, even in *Queene Elizabeths* time; that in every Nationall quarrell betweene us and others (which hath often happened, and very remarkeable betwixt us and the *French*) they haue voluntarily and brauely sided with us, making the danger common both to themselves and us; which was drawn out but particularly against the *English*. The joyning of *Scotland* hath made us an intire Iland, which by nature is the best fortification, and the most capable of all advantages of strength, that by Art can be added unto nature, whereby we may at one & the same time be able both to undertake any action abroad, & defend our selves
at

at home, without either much danger, or great cost. Secondly, by reason his Majestie hath the neighbourhood of the powerfull nation by sea, that now is in the world, at his devotion; a people by nature more worthy of credit with us then any other: the use of whose neighbourhood our owne histories will commend unto us, if we enquire of the ages past, even then when they wanted that power and knowledge in their industry, which they now haue, as well in matters of peace as warre, the memories of those times will tell us, that we seldome undertooke any great thing without them; insomuch as our losse of *France*, may probably be in part imputed to the breach we suffered in their friendship. & though they were then of the same Religion with *England*, as likewise now they are, yet the present condition that we doe both of us stand in, for point of Religion, doth place us in an estate of better assurance with them; then the conditions of those times did; for then considering no main National separation in the Church Religion was, but a common bond unto them, and inclined them to particular side, where now it hath the motive in it to make defence with; against an opposite Church in such a Nation, as hath drawne both of us into one and the same cause in quarrell, as well of policie, as of Religion. And lastly, this Army is the best Military Schoole of the world, from whence our Land services may be sufficiently appointed; at least with Officers.

Now for the hearts of our people, and the wealth of our Kingdome (though it may be some

of his Majesties ill affected subjects could be willing we should distrust our owne strength, when wee receive these two points into our consideration) yet for the first; the occasion; whereof they have derived from our difference in Religion, I may say the wrath of God hath beene evident against them, in the confusion of their plots (One thinkes) it should be a horrour to them, for to thinke of attempting any farther that way; for those of them that have made a covenant with bloud, wee stand not either in feare or neede of their numbers, but we may both spare and suppress them: And farre be it from me to thinke, that many men of those that hold no communion in the Church with us, should giue other Nations the cause to say, that in *England* are the false men, that take up Gods weapons against him; and their owne weapons against themselves, in favour of a forraign Ambition, that makes the pretence of Religion but a port hole to lay his Artillery out at, or his scaling ladder to assault by. Now the second point touching the wealth of the Kingdome, if I should call the Councell of *Spaine* it selfe to giue judgement in the cause, I should neede no better sentence to condemne their opinions, who thinke the King of Great *Brittaine* poore; their Master knowes it well enough, he shall finde it otherwise, whensoever hee shall undertake to attempt us, or wee them.

Now for *Spaine*, his Majestie there, though accounted the greatest Monarch of Christendome; yet his estate being enquired thoroughly, his roote will be found a great deale too narrow; for the top of his

his Dominions are so farre in distance asunder, as they cannot giue reliefe time enough one to another upon an alarm; which is the reason hee is more powerfull to assault then defend, and therefore are compelled to haue continual garrisons of that charge he is unable to maintaine: he hath more to doe with shipping then any other Prince, and yet hath few men at his devotion, but by extreame charge, and those of worst sorts; his poverty hath therefore appeared in the mutinie of his Low Countrey Armie, for want of pay, which was great cause of his ill successe there; & I cannot see how his estate can be much better now then it was. For though I be true, that his charge is somewhat lesse; yet it is likewise true, that his Subsidies in *Spain* be also diminished; as well in respect of his insupportableness, as of indispositiō of his Revenues out of the *Indies* decayed: And indeed but for his *Indies*, hee were the poorest Prince in Christendome. Now it serues the better for the finding his weaknesse or strength, to enquire whether he be able to stand upon the termes of defiance, and yet hold his *Indies*, I thinke not: for his Majestie of Great Brittain, joyning with the States of the United Provinces, is of power to faine Armadoes, the one to blocke up *Spain*, the other the *Indies*; the least successe that may be hoped for out of this enterprise, the cutting off his returne would beggar him: the feare of this project was the thing that stopped his Greatnesse to the United Provinces, when hee departed with his pretence of Sovereigntie to them: and that feare is an Ague he is not yet cured of. This is a right designe, and a great one, such a one, as I wish

wish we had the treasure, and valiant bloud of our Ancestors to bestow vpon; for the expence whereof we haue nothing to shew now, but two poore Ilands *Iarsey* and *Garnsey*. And to say the truth in that case; if all the Ilands or Lands that belong unto the Crown of *England*, were offered to his Majestie, I should not giue my advice to receiue them, much lesse to conquer them. Now for the disposition of the Low Countrey men, I assure my selfe there cannot be a thing more desired, then they to joyne with his Majestie in any undertaking, especially in this: for they are sorie they understood the King of *Spaines* weaknesse so little in Queene *Elizabeths* time, when her Majestie so much affected their joyning with her, and that now they know it, his Majestie being greater in power, will yet suffer such an enemy to all Christian Princes, chiefly to those of his Majesties Religion, to creep into his bosome: For all the greatnesse he hath, he holds by the curtesie of his Majestie, (and to that end Courts it;) he knowes he were undone else. To conclude, I will referre some of the Reasons, that perswade to the undertaking of his designe; the policie of *Spaine* hath troden more bloody steps then any State of Christendom; looke into his Treaties, and his Negotiations of his Ministers abroad, you shall finde as much falshood in them, as bloud in the other: He never paid debt so truly, as those he imposed in corrupting of the Ministers of other Princes: He holds league with none, but to haue neerer access to doe him harme; a Match in kindred shall not hinder it when he apprehends his advantage: He disturbs all Christendome with his Alarums and
Arma-

Armadoes yearly, and yet doth lesse hurt to Infidels and Pirats then any, unlesse it be to get wherewithall to arme himselfe the better against other Christian Princes, and he hath an ambition to the whole Empire of Christendome. These are motives wherein all Christian Princes are interested, so as with reason they cannot oppose the designe, nor will (I thinke the most of them) hee hath brought himselfe into such an hatred with them. Let us, betweene his Majesty and the Vnited Provinces, consider how the particular causes of both Nations doe importunate us both to the undertaking thereof. Who hath been so thirsty of our bloud as *Spaine*? And who hath spilled so much as he? Who hath been so long our enemy? And who hath corrupted so many of our Nation as *Spaine*? And that all with the help of gold, which by reason of the neglect of this Designe he doth still enjoy, tempting our weak ones, and our false ones withall. Would you finde a Traitor on a suddaine? *Balaams Asse* will tell you where, at the *Spanish* Embassadors doore? And when? when they come from Masse, and other wise. When to? when they Match with us. For his malice is so great, he cannot hide; nor will God (I hope) suffer it. Yet let us examine in reason: now if we be so charitable as to forget what is past, whether we may promise our selues assurance of his amity for the time to come or not? Because peace with a true neighbour is a condition to be embraced, nothing more certain then the contrary. We cannot promise it his ambition to the Empire, so long as he holds the *Indies*, shal never die. The Vnited Provinces is an Object, which though he hath an eye to, yet hee likes not.

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What other thing soever we communicate with him in, we shall never be assured of him (such is the nature of the Religion,) so long as we differ in matter of faith, he knowes very well the perill he stands in, if hee be attempted by his Majestie and the Vnited Provinces. Consider what suggestions these are to keep him thinking upon; and imagin then, what his owne part will prompt him to doe vwhen he sees a time for it. He then to the end hurts, that he may not be prevented by the Enterprise. Now of the fittesse and honour of it, to be in that undertaking of his Majestie, who is the greatest Ilander in Christendome, and therefore a Navie most proper to him: He is a Defender of the Faith, as well in understanding, learning and godlinesse, as in title; therefore in the planting of the true Church, their is a sacred worke, that even by office, as it were, belongs unto him: He is of a great liberall minde, the *Indies* will affoord him meanes to exercise it. These Considerations, and the great multitude of his subjects, doe seeme to invite him: and in every part, consideraby in the Designe, we may finde something to perswade us, that it seems to be a kind of offer, both in Religion, Policy and Nature, preferred unto his Majestie; as the Prince for maintaining of it.

P I N I S.

(2)
A SECOND
PART OF SPANISH
PRACTISES.

OR,
A RELATION OF MORE
Particular wicked plots, and cruell, in
humane, perfidious, and vnnaturall
practises of the Spaniards.

WITH,
More Excellent reasons of greater consequence, de-
liucred to the Kings Maiessty to dissolue the two trea-
ties both of the Match and the Pallatinate,
and enter into warre with the
Spaniards.

WHEREVNTO
IS ADIOYNED A WORTHY ORA-
tion Appropriated, vnto the most Mighty and Illu-
strious Princes of Christendome, wherein the right and
lawfulnesse of the Netherlandish warre against *Phillip*
King of Spayne is approved and
demonstrated.

PRO. 20. 28.
Mercy and truth preserue the King, and his Throne is up-
holden by mercie.

PRINTED. M. DC. XXIV.

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MORE EX- CELLENT REA- SONS OF GREATER CON- SEQUENCE, DELIVERED TO THE

Kings Maiesty, to dissolue the two Treaties,
both of the Match, and the Pallatinate, and
enter into Warre with the *Spaniard*.

FIRST it is to be observed, that the State of *Spain*,
not content with those ordinary provisions for the ex-
ercise of the Romane Religion, by the Infanta, and her
family, (which other Princes in like case would have
demanded, and which his Maiesty with great reason,
might at the beginning of the Treaty have conceived
they would have bene contented with: Have with great vehemency
(upon advantage of having the Princes Person in their possession) pre-
sented a generall conuenance for all his Maiesties subiects of the Romane
Religion; to the great dishonor of Almighty God, in the sincerity of
his service in this Realme, and to the great derogation of the Lawes
of this Kingdome. And lastly, to the great discouragement, and griefe
of all his Maiesties well affected subiects, from whose generall discon-
tent they expect (as well appeareth) a consequence of no small mis-
chiefe.

Reasons of greater Consequence,

Secondly it is obserued, that during the continuance of this treatie, and by reason of the same Popish faction, haue exceedingly increased in this Realme, both in multitude and boldnesse.

And whereas they haue bene diuided heretofore amongst themselves into the part of the Iesuites depending vpon *Spaine*, and the secular Priests otherwise, They are generally now strongly vnited together depending no lesse vpon *Spaine* for temporall respects, then vpon *Rome* for spirituall.

And considering the house of *Austria* hath bene alwayes a capitall enemy to our Religion to increase their owne greatnesse, by extirpating the protestant party in all places where they can preuaile. It cannot but be of most dangerous consequence, to the safety of the King, and the Realme vnlesse remedy be provided with speede, for the abating of that party here at home, which cannot be during the time that these Treaties are on foote.

Thirdly, it is obserued, that by aduantage of these Treaties, and thereby keeping of his Maiesty in hope of a generall peace, they haue contrarily vnder the pretence of assisting the Emperour, oppressed the Protestants party in most parts of Christendome, being the ancient Allies and confederates of this Crowne, to the endangering not onely of the whole State of the reformed Religion, but also of the Common safety of all the professors of the same.

Fourthly, during the time of these Treaties of loue with his Maiesty, they haue with all kind of hostility, set vpon his Maiesties sonne in Law, the husband of his onely and most Royall Daughter, invading his Townes and Territories in all places, and infine disinherited him with all that Royall Off-spring of all his ancient Patrimoniall Honors and Possessions, to the great dishonor of his Maiesty, and extreame grieve of all his well affected Subjects. And now also at the last, when they should come to make good the hope of restitution, they haue layd new grounds for endless delays, and turned pretended difficulties into apparant impossibilities, not forbearing also now to annexe as a Condition to the weake hope of their vncertaine and imperfect resolutions. That the eldest sonne of the Count Pallatine, should be brought vp in the Emperours Court: so restlesse are their desires to worke the ouerthrow of Religion by all possible devices.

Lastly,

Delivered to the Kings Maiesly.

Lastly, it is apparant how manifoldly from time to time, they haue deluded and abused his Maiesly with their Treaties, how small respect they haue shewed to the Prince his Greatnesse and worth, what endignities they haue offered againe and againe, to his highnesse, by importuning him vpon all aduantages to forsake his Religion, contrary to the custome of all Princes; and contrary to the ancient Lawes of Honor, and Hospitality, who ought to haue beene vsed there with all Princely freedome, and pressed to nothing vnto which he was indisposed, considering with what confidence (being so great a Prince) he had put himselfe within their power, although it pleased God to guide and fortifie his Princely heart, that he constantly withstood all their attempts, and stratagems, to his owne immortall honor, and to the vspeakable comfort of the good people of his Fathers Kingdome; Wherevnto may be added their infinite aduantiagiousnesse, and endlesse delays in their Treaties. And finally what dishonor they haue obruded vpon our Nation and Religion in laving still to new Treaties, and turning al to the aduantage of their owne particuler ends, being true to nothing but their owne grounded Maximes, with which neither the Match nor the restitution of the Pallatinate can possibly consist, but vpon such termes as shew to our Sate, an inevitable mischise.

AN
ORATION
OR SPEECH OF
THE RIGHT AND LAWFULNES

of the Netherlandish Warres against *Phillip*
King of *Spaine*: Vnto the most Mighty
and Illustrious Princes of
Christendome.

Illustrious Princes of Christendome:



Great and Mighty are the Kingdoms in your possession, which extend far and wide, throughout all the world: but much more great, and farre more excellent are the vertues and knowledge, by which you hold, preserve and governe the same righteously, even to the vntermost extent of felicity.

In the meane time let me now intreat you, *o most peaceful Princes*, that you will heare me with a friendly and well-affected minde, the sequell hereof, and fundamentally will understand wherefore the *Spaniards* doe most falsely accuse vs; That this peace was violated and broken by vs: which accusation I hold to be very grievous.

Among other Conditions, Lawes, and Contradicts of this peace, this was one of the chiefeft and weightiest: That *Don Iohn* should not admit any *Spaniard* or stranger, nor any of them; by whose counsell and advise it was evidently knowne, that the Provinces were brought into that extreme spoyle, into the Councell: And contrarily,

of the Netherlandish warre.

rily, bee called, and sent for them to him, kept them in his Court, and in his most secret chambers; That *Baptista Taxis*, a most notable Spie, and enemy of our common affaires, who a little before had bene Secretary vnto Duke d'Alva, who was not onely adioyned to his priuy Counsell, but also was made and set ouer them. Besides him one *Othanius Gonzago* an Italian, as also hee tooke vnto him one *Escuado*, a crafty Spanish Fox, vnto whom hee adioyned certaine *Netherlanders*. But what *Netherlanders* I pray you? Those who partly had bene the stirrers vp and fauourers of so many miseries; who were both hated of their natiue Countrey, and of all good men; viz. *Barlemont*, *Megan, Huerge*, *Flojon*, *Hautepenny*, *Affonville*, and other plagues of their Countrey, who hauing ordained the Law of *Lentulus*, *Cataline* and *Cassius*, established the same with their counsels & deeds, viz. *That all those that by preserving the Common-wealth would be preserved, should be declared for enemies.*

By this counsell and aduice, the *Spaniards* presently, euen at the beginning of this peace, should haue surprized the Towne of *Gent*, if the good and profitable counsell, and also the valiant deeds of the States, had not hindred the same; For *don Iohn* himselfe could not refraine nor keep in his hatred and enmity any longer, which he bore to the *Netherlanders*, but had quickly forgot that sacred oath, which he had sworne, vpon the Euangelists, before the Bishop of *Sbertogenbosch*, and the Popes *Nuncios*, or spirituall Embassadour.

He had promised and sworn; that hee would deale with all the souldiers in the *Netherlands*, who were 15000, about their Arrears, to the end, that they thereupon might bee discharged, like as in the agreement of the peace had bene concluded. And contrarily thereunto, he promised the Souldiers, in the Kings behalfe, anew, to haue greater meanes, honours, offices and rewards: and held a most mischieuous counsel with *Fronsberghe* and *Focker*, Collonels of the German souldiers; part of whose wicked counsell hee effected, and the rest being hindred by the States he could not effect.

But yet to the end, that you may see and know the ground of this Businesse, I will in few words declare vnto you how the matter fell out: For vnder these two conditions or couertants, viz. in maintaining of the Romish Religion; and in yeelding lawfull obedience to the King, did the whole Treatie of the peace consist.

An Oration of the lawfulnessse

And when the States which had sworn hereunto with an high Oath, then were they presently admitted, that those affaires concerning the Land, which presently in the beginning of the treatie of peace were begunne, but could not be concluded vpon, that they should be dispatched and concluded in the next assembly of the States.

But yet *Don Iohn*, whose affection burned with a lust and longing desire, by some secret and concealed practice to breake the peace, and to begin the warre againe, casting all these conditions and promises at his heeles, made a way for those complaints which *Phillip*, and all the former Governours had vsed as a cloake to cover all their intended wicked imaginations against the Rei-publicke, viz. That the *Hollanders* and *Sealanders* neglected and despised the Romish Religion; and by that meanes the commandement of the King was neglected.

Vpon this Anvile did they hammer night and day? they assayed the States, and were exceeding troublesome vnto them, counselling them that they altogether should begine the warres, against *Holland*, *Sealand*, and the Prince of *Orange*, who was the most eminent Champion against the vniust government of the *Spaniards*, who indeede had bene exceeding beneficiall to the whole Common-wealth.

In this counsell *Don Iohn* had his eye vpon these two objects, which should be exceeding profitable and seruicable to further his intent; that by their Ciuill warres, the substance and treasure of the land might be exhausted, and they being weakned and bruyed by their owne Warre, that then he, with the more ease and conveniency might suppress them together.

Whereas he still persisting with these desires and intreaties, being as it were dashed against a Rocke by a Tempest: The States answered him; that it were better and more profitable for the Common-wealth, That concerning all those matters whereof *Don Iohn* made his complaints, to haue them by a friendly composition decided, and vnited, in the assembly of the States; and if they could haue imprinted or perswaded him to haue bekeued the same, we had never fallen into the miseries of a Ciuill Warre.

For what is more repugnant to the common good, and to all humane Lawes and Iustice; then to try by warre, those controversies, which

of the Netherlandish Warre.

which may be decyded by Right and Reason. *Arch'damus* (though no Christi in King, but of a stately, honourable any provident Nation) sayd; That it was *unlawfull to take Armes against those, who were willing to haue the matter tryed by Law.* When and iniury had beene offered to the Romanes themselves; they did not presently begin with wars: but did first send *Clarigatum*, that is, they caused those things that were stolen or taken away, to be more apparently and manifestly demanded againe.

But how profitable, good, and wel-ordred is the custome of the Common-wealth of the *Venetians*, which I lately saw and obserued; where they will not suffer that the principall Nobles themselves of that flourishing Common-wealth, should contend, chide, or maintaine enmity among themselves, for, or about other mens small and petty affaires. But they bring the same into their Senate, or Councell, and there they desire, pray, and admonish them, that they will remember, and be mindfull, that they are all of them *Saint Markes* children (which name they haue given their *Rei-publicke*) and that they are brethren, and Burgeses of such a free and happy government, and that it was not beleeving for them, for any particular businesse, to cherish and foster any private dissention or hatred, which might thereafter prove to be more generall, to the perill and danger of that *Rei-publicke*.

Which custome aboue all other affaires ought to be vsed in the affaires concerning the Land, and ought to be esteemed of in all wel-ordred Common-wealths. If this were so, we should not see one City so against another (oftentimes in one Province or *Rei-publicke*) or one Noble-man so against another of the contrary party, to threaten warre, murder, destruction, burning and blaking, nor violence to assault each other.

But now to returne to our former purpose, in respect that there are two sorts of Warres: the one with words by way of Iustice; the other with violence. The first being proper to men, the second to vnreasonable beasts. And that wee must necessarily avoyde violence, vnlesse the course of Iustice be denyed vs. Therefore we must beleeue that the States farre rather would haue decyded those controversies, by their good and wholesome counsels, by reason and conference; then to make them greater by Warre and spilling the

An Oration of the lawfulnessse

blood of the Citizens. Contrarily *Don Iohn* complaineth of the States very publickely: Hee reprooves and vpbraideth them all for Rebels, and then deales with the High-dutch Souldiers no longer by secret dealing in the affaires very prejudiciall to the Common-wealth (with whom very cunningly hee had long time dealt with all) but then began he very publickly to deale with them; so that the whole discovery of that businesse, by divers intercepted letteres, was fully come to the knowledge of the States. And many things they dayly saw with their eyes, as first when he removed his Court and family, with his Councell-companions to *Bergen in Henegou* (being a very strong Towne, and very fit for his conjurations and complotings) and commanded that the same should bee provided with a strong Garrison.

Moreover, when as he surprized the Castle of *Antwerpe* by Treachery, and did surprize those well provided and fortified Townes of *Namur* and *Charlemont*, and put a strong guard into them of his owne souldiers, thinking thereafter by treachery to haue taken in the Towne of *Brussels*, So that already the principall and chiefe Cities and Townes, by the great number of his Forts and *Citadels*, where beleagred and oppressed; and then he wholly beganne to set vp himselfe against the Rei-publick; and also many other things were then done by his advise and motion: whereas hee according to his oath, ought to haue advised, that all the souldiers should haue layd downe their Armes, and presently to haue departed out of the Country.

All which things appearing manifestly to the eyes of the States, who adjudged that the same tended to the subversion of the Common-wealth; they thought that they were bound continually to keepe a good counsel-watch; neither did they turne their eyes aside from the Rei-publick, from that time that he sought to haue all the government alone, vnto whom they in all officiousnesse (not being mooved by any distemperature of minde) sent as Embassadors vnto him, *Marolans* and *Brusus*, charging them that they should present and shew, their full performance, innocency, and integritie, and should free them from all suspicion and euill conceit, (the which they most certainly knew, that he mischieuously had dissembled,) that the faith that was given at *Gene* should be renewed: They should also promise, that the States should make diligent enquire, and execute

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of the Netherlandish warre.

cute severe punishment vpon those Treacherous murderers and conspirators, who (as he sayd) layd waite for his life, and had conspired against him; (making a shewe and dissembling, as if to prevent the same, hee went to *Namen* :) They would augment his Guard more then those he had already, to the number of three hundred compleat armed men; who should bee all of them *Netherlanders*, the which before that time was never offered to any Governour or Ruler. And yet with all these supplications and intreaties they effected nothing; for there was neither modesty nor reason to be found in *Don Iohn*. Nay, hee could not bridle nor keepe in his owne evill arrogancy and audacious passion; but declared the same to *Marollans* at the same time of his Embassage, boasting himselfe, that hee now did wholly assure himselfe, and that hee doubted not, but that hee had brought vnder the subjection of his will and command, the Citie of *Antwerpe*, that hee had no lacke neither of money nor men; that hee now had all things in a readinesse, for the furnishing of a Warre; and that hee with his sword, would purchase vnto himselfe a greater authority, power, command and government; then the States had promised and granted him in the pacification of *Gent*; and that it was his will, that these Embassadors should report all these things vnto the States, for he would not conceale any thing from them that hee knew to appertaine to this his intent and will. This matter is undoubtedly sure and certaine, and sufficiently knowne before this, so that heere it is not needefull to produce witnesses. And although it be a very miserable thing, not to be able to deny, and very shamefull to be confest; yet I thinke verily that the *Spaniards* themselves (although they be lesse shamelesse then a man would beleene they are) cannot deny this at any time. *Don Iohn* had written vnto *Tre-longe*, and to his other companions and fellow-workers of his secret trickes and conspiracies, That hee had given as a Cymbrian spoyle the wealth of the Citizens of *Antwerpe*, for a prey vnto his Souldiers. The souldiers ranged already through the City, as mortall enemies, and forced the Citizens to give them whatsoever they listed: Many of the principall citizens began to flye out of the City, and as it were banished: by which meanes the traffique and trading of the Marchants by shipping, beganne to crafte.

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And although there were great and manifest tokens of their malignant enmity; yet neuertheles the States did beare al. this very moderately and modestly, and indeed would haue born yet much more, if that mortall and pittifull proiect which *Don Iohn* intended, had not beene discouered and made manifest as the day; euen as if a man at the first sight seemed to perceiue some livelesse and insensible creature, and afterwards by more certain and sure signes and tokens, be-ginneth to think of what quality that was whereof hee doubted: euen so the States did also very easily vnderstand, by all those things which they had seene, that this prince did cherish in his mind and counsels, an hatred tending to the ruine of the common-wealth; but of what qualitie that he was, and how farre he would extend himselfe ouer the reipublick, that they most evidently discerned and distinguished thereafter, both out of his owne, and by letters from others. For there were many letters intercepted in Gasconie, viz. Two of *Don Iohns*, written by himselfe vnto the King, and other from him written to *Antibonius Perez* the chiefe of the Kings Councell; More-over fise letters from *Esconedo* to the King, out of which the States might assuredly vnderstand, that there were fed and bred monsters, and strang impostures; that privat conspiracies were there practised; that there was great dissension mingled among the Cities and the Nobilitie of the Netherlands; and by what meanes the same was effected; and how fit and serviceable it was that tyranny and the Inquisition, according to that firme resolution of the Spaniards, should bee brought in & established; and to that end soldiers, armes, and all warlike preparation very earnestly was required for the King.

Consider and vnderstand, *illustrious Princes*, the secret and privie conspiracies of this man: Heare the words which this man vseth in his letters written to the King, which (as I said before), were intercepted. *In regard that this bodie (saith he) is so vnehealthful, that it cannot be cured any otherwise, but by cutting off of the vsound members, you must now carefully obserue this occasion which is presented.* And *Esconedo* adds thereunto the rest very amply, as a good interpreter of his meaning, who might very well write that which *Don Iohn* himselfe would not giue to vnderstand. This *Esconedo* was the right minion and seruant of Audacitie and Treacherie, whom I thinke by reason of his nature and manners, was named *Esconedo*, because that hee knew by

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by his deceit to bring the miserable Netherlanders into his net. He wrot that vnto the King which *Don Iohn* would haue him to write, viz. That it possibly could not be, that the Netherlanders should be brought vnder the pure and perfect obedience and will of the King, vnlesse that first they were tamed and constrained therunto with fire and sword. That therefore both men and armes were very needfull, and that the same must be effected by warre. By the which as a good architecture of the Spanish tyranny, he gaue them to vnderstand, that the crueltie and rigour which *Alua* and *Requesenius* had abused, must not continually be put in practise, but that the Netherlanders must bee ensnared by a greater deceit and hypocrisie. Like as in Nauigation, it is a point of knowledge to see before hand the storme, that although men cannot attaine the haven, yet (if altering the course) you may attaine therinto, then it is a foolish deed to keepe that course which before was taken with great perill and danger, rather then that you altering the same, might attaine to the wish for haven. For so was his opinion, that the first raging and madnesse of the Spaniards must bee somewhat mollified, and now must go to worke with dissembled faith and promises. That *Don Iohn* who had an incredible moderation, and an indifferent minde betwixt Ambition and Crueltie, might very fortunately effect the same. Hee aduised by his owne and his masters counsell, that England should be first surprised and conquered by warre, and then it would be easie to surprize the Netherlandish prouinces.

In those letters which *Don Iohn* sent vnto *Anthony Perez* his speciall friend; He gaue him to vnderstand that he was of such a nature and condition, that he could not liue still in idlenesse, nor could away with the lawes of peace; and that his mind and conscience could not indure that he should wholly submit himselfe to the priuiledges and lawes of the Netherlanders, but that he farre rather by force of Armes would obtaine and effect for the King, a whole absolute, and vlimited government over the Netherlands.

And if now you do not sufficiently see and perceiue, that *Don Iohn* first broak the pacification of *Gent*, where the same by so many and cleare proofes doth appeare. Then remember (by the Eternall God) remember, I say, what reasons he vsed to the Embassadours of our States at *Marche* and *Famines*, when he sayd, that he would keepe the

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the contracts and conditions of peace so long, vntill that covenant which was begun, should repent him, that is, vntill hee by his sweet entisings, and hypocriticall lenitie, hauing rockt the States asleepe; at the last might destroy them; and with them suppress the whole Reipublick. For after the death of *Iohn*, *Philip* shewed very manifestly that that same in very deed should haue befallen vs, like as he at *Mechlen* by the Lord of *Selles* certified and gaue them to vnderstand, that he would breake the lawes of the peace, and that hee no longer would be bound to keepe them. But I pray you for what occasion? was it for neglecting the Romish Religion? Assuredly it had neuer bene more vsed nor reuerenced with the like deuotion, care and diligence, nor neuer was the zeale of our people so greatly affected thereunto as then. The Bishops of the Churches were then receiued; the Schooles and Colleges were partly instituted, partly renewed and augmented. Finally, there was not any thing omitted that serued for the maintaining of the customes and ceremonies of the Romish Church. So that our Netherland might well haue compared, matched and strouen with Italy and with Rome the chiefe seate and Metropolitane of that Religion. The which the Popes *Namicius*, (or spirituall Embassadour) who in his behalfe was sent vnto vs, shal not deny the same. For hee writing himselfe vnto the Pope concerning this, saith, that he did much admire, and was therefore exceeding ioyfull, that those prescriptions and duties (or seruices) of the Romish Church, were exceeding well maintained by the Netherlanders in great deuotion and pietie.

How and after what manner the affections, wils, and deuotions of all our States, and of all the Netherlanders were affected to the king, I need not to make repetition; neither is it needfull to prooue, that they delighted or loved any thing so much as to vsfull the kings commands, and to shew obedience therevnto. The Trophies, Pyramedes and Pageants which were made and prepared so sumptuous and costly to the honor, and at the entrance of *Iohn*, can testifie this. How did all the Nobles with such exceeding ioy, wishing him good luck, receive him? How did all the people with great mirth and reioycings receive him? What bankets and sumptuous feasts at the lands charge, were then with much delight made for ioy thereof, that this peace was made and concluded? And what great triumphs all

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all the Netherlanders made and demonstrated vpon all their Theaters when this peace was made, is yet testified by all the inhabiting strangers, who were thereat exceedingly driuen to admiration, yea were euen astonished.

It was no otherwise then; but as if the Netherlanders had then found the beginning and principles of a wel-governed Commonwealth in the person of this their Chiefe, or Gouvernour. Yea, thou thy selfe *Iohn*, if thou wilt but enter into thine owne heart and conscience, shalt not be able to deny the same, That the Netherlanders did fully keep and obserue all the contracts and conditions of the peace, which they were bound to keep; and neuer denied obedience vnto the commandement of the king, if they were not more vile then the commandements of *Manius*, if they did not to too much oppugne the lawes and priuiledges.

But to the end that I may produce one instance which farre exceeds all mens admiration; and which shall perfect this our disputation: you must for a certainty acknowledge, that the states had undertaken with force of Armes to haue forced the *Hollanders* and *Zealanders* to haue done those things which you most desired, which was the induction, and as it were the ground-worke of your accusations and complaints, if in case they by right, reason, and conference, could not be brought thereunto; which things you altogether scorned and rejected, and to the end that this one pretext, this onely pretence might remaine for matter for your false accusations; And that this might be a just occasion for your conjunctions: yet this occasion was not sufficient thereunto, neither could it be sufficient enough, in regard the same is manifestly knowne vnto all men, not onely to Netherlanders, but also to all strangers, who either saw the whole businesse as it was carried, or else haue heard the same reported: That the *Hollanders* and *Zealanders* haue alwayes entertained, received, and accomplished the precepts and commandements of the King, no otherwise then if they had been the Oracles or commandements of God: That they neuer were carelesse nor negligent in their offices or duties which by the law of Nature they were owing to their Prince. Yet this I will freely confesse, (which I will attribute and consecrate to their immortal and most high commendations) that the *Hollanders* and *Zealanders* were the first counsellors, and shewed the way first to the other Provinces, to free and to main-

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taine the common liberty. For I will at the last, *O you most provident men, you most mighty States of Holland and Zealand*, convert and turn my speech and oration from those wicked and horrible dealings of that dishonorable man; to your vertues, valours, and abilities. Should I so sleighly passe by the worthinesse and valiant deeds, and manly courage, whereof every mans mouth is full: and for which every one so highly commendeth, loveth, and honoreth you for.

You have evermore with a valiant, constant and persevering courage, resisted and rejected that most intolerable and most cruell servitude and thraldome of the Inquisition, or Faith-presse. And if they now say, that the authoritie, respect and commandement of the King consisted therein; and that you in respect thereof, would not give way, nor be obedient vnto the same; wherein indeed consisteth your glory, and whereof you may justly boast; Yet you confesse, to your great commendation, that you have given these occasions vnto the accusations of *Don Iohn*: That you, being free from all faults, yet in this you are and will be faulty. And herein you may boast, That you with an especial providence and wisdom, have carefully watched and kept your selves, so that at no time, neither by any of these, nor any other Spanish trecheries, periuries, tricks, or traps, you have been coufused, debauched, nor insnared: that you were the first which were inslained with a singular constancie and courage, to deliuer the Reipublicke from the grievous yooke of tyranny and cruell government. That you with the torch of your libertie, have been a light to enlighten all the other Provinces. And that you had faine rather, by these long-during warres, be spent, die, and indure all kinds of misery and adversitie: then to forsake your customes, lawes and priviledges. I beseech the Lord God, by whose only conduct, grace and assistance, you have atchived such admirable things, that you may prosperously continue & persevere therein from henceforth perpetually. Now will I turne me againe vnto that from which I have digressed, and recommend vnto your judgment and arbitrement, Oh Christian Princes, all what I have spoken of the deeds of *Don Iohn*. Take notice, iudge, and speake what you thinke thereof. Considering that of all the States parts; there is nothing omitted, which by the law and contract they had promised to doe: and contrarily for *Don Iohns* part, of the ten parts of the agreement or composition, which wholly he ought to have performed, he hath not discharged

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discharged any one point thereof well nor honestly as hee ought. And hereby you may see, with what justice and equiry we vndertook this businesse, and how we (having vnderaken the same) haue dealt and proceeded therein.

For when the States perceiued, that all their hope and trust for the cashiering of those great numbers of the Germane souldiers was frustrate, and that they were laid in the cities, townes, and mouthes of the frontier garrisons, and that they kept *Namen & Charlemont*, being Cities and Castles that were very well provided; to the end that *Don Iohn* that way, might receiue and bring into the Netherlands that great army which hee had desired of the King in his letters; and moreover they perceiuing that the hate and enuy of all the souldiers was turned vpon them, and that they with an exceeding greedy desire longed for the pilaging of the greatest Cities, And that they attended onely but for the least signe and token of their Prince, to haue false rauenously and furiously, as raging beasts, and to haue seized vpon the liues, goods, and meanes of the Netherlanders. That *Don Iohn* himselfe, and other naughty people daily threatned the ruine and subversion of our native Country. That they by the demonstrations, hand-writings, mouthes and letters of their confederates, were themselves conuinced. That they all had agreed to set the cities and towns on fire, and to haue slaine all the Nobles and chiefe of the Citizens, to haue destroyed the Netherlands, and to haue rooted out the Reipublick. Who is he then that would not be awaked and stirred vp for the defence and preservation of the common good? Who is he that with good counsell would not prevent the trecheries of *Iohn*: Who would be so vnprouident, and such a coward, that would not defend and maintaine his owne life, with weapons and warre? Assuredly reason hath taught the learned; necessitie the Barbarians; custome the heathens; and nature it selfe the vnreasonable beasts, to repell violence with violence, euen to their vttermost ability.

You your selues, Oh great and gracious Princes, which possesse kingdomes freely and in prosperitie; may easily know and vnderstand this; and know also that even so it must be done. But what do I say, that you must know it? All the Spaniards our enemies do know it, and will freely confesse the same. For they demonstrate it in their deeds, that the same hath been just, and is so yet. For considering

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that *Henricus Castellanus* (being a bastard) and the great Grand-father of King *Phillip*, did expell *Peter* his lawfull brother and right heire, out of the kingdome, because he seemed to vse tyrannicall dealing: and because he seemed to dominiere contrary to the lawes and customes of his kingdome; And, that King *Phillip* vpon the same conditions that he inherited Spaine, did inherit the Netherlands, (viz. that he should maintaine and religiously obserue the lawes and customes.) Wherefore then may not we, as the Spaniards did reject *Peter*, even as wel reject *Phillip* (who oppresseth his subjects with an vnjust and vnlawfull government) and expell him with our armes for euer out of our Provinces.

But I feare, O Princes, that I haue too much abused your patience, and that my oration seemeth to haue run such a course, that I neede not adde any thing more thereunto. Yet I intreat your leaue, that you be pleased to suffer me, though very briefly to continue in that which *Phillip* sought to effect after the government of *Iohn*, by the deceit of an hypocriticall and dissembled peace; to the end that you may clearly see and perceiue, wherfore that we, so long as the world stands, may neuer make any peace with *Phillip*, but now and for euer without ceasing, are bound to Warre against him. The very name of peace (I confesse) is exceeding sweete, a peace that is good and sound: But betwene peace and that bondage which is cloaked, covered, and falsly folded vp in a concealed peace, is indeede a very great difference. Peace is a still and quiet liberty: but that bondage, or all manner of feare thereof, is the extreame of all euils and mischieues. Such was the peace, (if a man may call that peace) which induced, or rather seduced the Netherlanders even vnto *Colen*.

When as the States by their Embassadours and letters vnto you and your predecessors, Ob all you Princes of Christendome, had againe intreated; that you by your authorities, respect, and exhortations, should ratifie, establish, confirme, and looke vnto that peace which *Phillip* after a new coufening manner should make, that the same should not be deceitfull: Like as he certainly and most maliciously by his deceit ouerthrew the same. For the Spaniards then made no delay, but presently brought in new dissensions into *Artois* and *Hennegane*, causing them to fall away from the other Provinces, ouer the which they euen vnto this present haue dominiere. Afterwards by force of Armes, violently they surpris'd *Mastricht*, and

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and moreouer and aboue they, partly by violence, and partly by great promises, haue sought to get into their power many other cities and prouinces.

And finally is that *Ulysses*-like-wit *Alexander Farnesius* Duke of *Parma*, brought out of *Italie*, who like vnto a most craftie and cunning bird-catcher, with the song of his lenitie, and promises of great rewards, insnared and captiuated all the Cities and Townes of *Brabant* and *Flaunders*.

Of this Prince I could say very much, which I am constrained to omit: Yet this one matter I cannot passe by in silence; That, although in the time of his gouernment hee effected many things very great and eminent for *Philip*, yet could hee not escape of being suspected, as if hee would haue vndermined the King in the gouernment, because that through his gentlenesse, lenitie and amitie; he had drawne vnto him the affections of all the *Netherlanders*, and that hee also seemed perspicuously to haue looked into, and also to beare a hatred to the wickednesse and fraudulent treacheries and deceites of the Spaniards. Therefore *Philip* gaue him *fungos*, or Toads-bread to eate, which *Agrippina* had so commended to the Emperour, to the end that by the power and operation thereof, he might be admitted, counted and receiued into the number of the gods.

But I pray you, what was that at last for a peace, which as a Comet or bright shining starre, shined vnto vs out of the firmament of the Spanish trecheries vnto which the Duke of *Parma* counselled vs, at what time the Arch-enemy stood, as it were, ouer our heads, and that the incredible great Spanish Fleet filled and covered the great Ocean or main Sea? A Fleet which was so terrible to behold, that I can hardly iudge, whether the Fleet that *Xerxes* had, which covered the Sea called *Mare Ponticum* had a greater number of Shippes, more Souldiers, or greater warlike preparation. With this Fleet *Phillip* had thought totally to haue suppressed vs, who were at that time ravished, as it were, with that pleasant and delightfull sound of peace. Yet when this Fleet, by the onely power of the Almighty God, was wonderfully destroyed and brought to naught; then presently by the Emperours Embassadors hee offered these Prouinces a new Treatie of Peace, to the end, that he thereby might transport all his Army and power of

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warre out of the *Netherlands* into *France*. The treacheries which many yeeres before he had plotted against that kingdome, beganne then to haue a wonderfull good progression: For his naturall kinsman *Henry* being made away by paracide, (or his murdering of a kinsman,) and the state of all that kingdome, being vtterly confused with Ciuill warre; then the matter, and the present occasion required, that he with Armes and a mighty Host should prosecute his designe, in that flourishing and famous great Kingdome of *France*, which Kingdome hee by violence hauing taken in and conquered, he might thereafter, without any trouble at all, haue subiugated those *Netherlandish* Prouinces, and all the other Kingdomes of Christendom.

What? Is it yet lawfull for me, or may I yet speake any more of Arrerages, or residue of the dangers of this Reipublicke? Yes, it is lawfull for me, and it shall be lawfull for me alwayes to stand for the dignity of my native Countrey, and to confesse the truth. Like as all good Orators, or eloquent speakers, doe euer keepe some of their most forcible and ponderous Arguments to the last. And like as experienced Generals vse to place their best souldiers in the last ranks; euen so *Phillip* in these latter yeeres presented a peace vnto these *Netherlands*, which should be adorned and confirmed with notable fidelity; the whole foundation and chiefe ground worke thereof, lay and consisted in the vertues, mercy, endeouors, diligence, and in the loue of the Arch-duke *Ernestus* his sisters sonne; who, after the Duke of *Parma*, was placed in the government of these Prouinces: He promised these Prouinces a peace; not such a peace as should be limited with any grievous or heauie conditions and contracts, like as the former was; but such a peace as they themselves would wish or desire. In the meane time *Phillip* sent his great and huge Armies into *France*, and his secret murderers into *Holland*, to haue murdered the Illustrious Prince *Mauritts*, Earle of *Nassow*, a famous and notable imitator of the vertues and valour of his father, and a singular defender of our Liberry; and by such an odious and treacherous villainy, to haue made him away; like as they, but a little before, by a most cruell and trecherous hand, had murdered his most worthy and valliant father, the Prince of *Orange*.

And finally *Phillip* concluded many more mischieuous, and more wicked purposes against these Prouinces, then euer before he could haue

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haue bethought himselfe of. I doe not speake any thing vnadvisedly, *O Princess*, but that which thousands besides me of good reputation, can testifie in faith and verity, and that which *Phillips* owne letters doe make good.

What then? Meaneth the king of *Spaine*, that our States by any propositions of peace, can bee diuerted from their enterprises and designments? Doth he not yet know and vnderstand, that all our affections are so abdurate and hardned, that we will far rather yeeld and giue place to Armes and Warre, then to any kind of new inuented peace-trecheries, after what manner soeuer the same might be propounded? Or, thinketh he peraduenture, that the affections of our States euery day, lie open to his desire and appetite? What? Is he yet ignorant, that the counsels of all our people, with a generall consent and vniformity of voices, are long agoe vnitd and knit fast together in this point; and that they will faire rather honourably in warre and Armes liue and die, for their Lawes, and for their native Country; then from henceforth shamefully to sinke or quaike, vnder his trecheries and deceipts? What, doe I say sinke or quaike? Nay, to come into the extreamest euills of Tyrannie; to bee bound with vntolerable and inhumane bonds of slauerie, and to bee reckoned and accounted among those slaves that are bought and sould. We haue prepared, made ready and sharpened, a perpetuall and an euerlasting warre and Armes against him: we neither haue, nor may cast our eyes vpon any other peace, then vpon such a peace as is grounded, confirmed, and may bee maintained with force and Armes.

But in regard that a little before I beganne to speak of *France*, and to proue that our warre partly was joynd with that same; therefore I will proceede to adde some other matters hereunto, by the which you may evidently see and perceiue, how many treacheries, traps and deceipts that *Phillip* hath laid for them.

He hath a long time since, as you know, *O Princess*, laboured and endeouored to assaile *France*, with all the violence and force of his warre; to the end that he by the occasion of the Ciuill dissensions in *France*, might effect so much by his wars and charges: that if he could not swallow and deuoure the whole Kingdome; yet that at the least he might get a great part thereof. For he had made his full reckoning and accout before hand, by preparing of that cruell Fleet,

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Fleet, that both *France* and *England* had been a prey vnto their enemies: Whereas those good Princes, notwithstanding had nothing at all endamaged him; neither was he by any iniustice provoked to that warre; vnlesse peradventure it be, that he thought this occasion sufficient; that the Pope, at the will and desire of *Phillip* had communicated those two flourishing Kingdoms, for their exercising and ministry of the Reformed Religion; who for the extirpation and eradication of that Religion; *Phillip* as a *Cato Maior*, with the puissance of the Romish Censores (or correction masters) vseth to haue regard vnto all the Kings and people of the earth, and therefore to correct and punish them, which is indeede a matter known vnto you all; for which no man can sufficiently wonder at the shamefulnessse thereof, and might now neither be passed by nor omitted. And that *Phillip* in these warres of France dealt most earnestly and with the greatest diligence and alacrity, with the Duke of *Ferres*, and other Spaniards of the League, whom he as companions, had assisted in that warre, to haue estranged the Right and Title of the Crowne of *France*, not onely from the succession or descent of the Kings blood and kindred, but euen from all Frenchmen, and to haue drawne the same to *Spain*.

These things are so certaine, O *Princes*, that there is no man which doubteth of the truth hereof. But to what end do I bring these into your Remembrances; What is this to maintaine the purpose I haue in hand; For this end it serueth; thereby to proue how exceeding great the ambition is of this most cruell Tyrant; and to the end you may perceiue and see how greatly, not onely we, but euen all of you together, must keep good watch and looke vnto it. For like as the nature of the Vine, is to extend the branches, as the armes thereof farre and wide, and therewith embraceth and layeth hold vpon euery thing that is neer it, if it be not lopt and pruned: Euen so shall *Phillip*, if you doe not all at once make resistance, at the last destroy and deuoure all Christendom, with most cruell and bloody warre.

Moreover, he by his Bribery, and secret conspiracy had lately effected so much in *Scotland*, that some of the chiefe of that Kingdom, should haue received and taken in twenty thousand Spaniards, if they had not been punished (after the matter was knowne and revealed) according as their treason deserved. I need not to thinke
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with my selfe, that I can sufficiently expresse with words, what treasons, what perills, what daungers, he, so oftentimes hath attempted against the Queene and Kingdome of *England*. Can ambition and violence proceed yet any further? Yes truly, For the like treacheries practised hee a little before against the Principallity of *Collew*; the Dukedomes of *Golders*; *Gulich*; *Cleane*; the County of *Berghes*; and that ancient Emperiall Towne of *Aken*: All which is most manifestly and apparantly knowne by good Testimony, and by his owne letters. And who knoweth in what lurking hole and corner of hypocrisy and dissimulation, he hideth and shielcreth his most mortall hate against the most mighty Princes of *Italy*; whom (as soone as the wind of the first oportunitie shall blow) very suddenly, shall be turned into coales and ashes, by his vnquenchable and fearefull great flames of Warre.

Doe ye not yet see and perceiue enough, *O Princes*, what treacheries and deceits that *Phillip* prepareth, for your most happy Kingdomes and Prouinces, which are your Patrimonies? Considering there is no man so blind nor senselesse, who seeth not, and vnderstandeth not that the ambition of *Phillip* neuer resteth, but dayly draweth him from land to land, and raiseth a new warre out of war; So that he by warres, fraude, mischief, and meere villanous deceits and treacheries, vnder the pretence of a seeming-peace, seeketh to deject and detrude euery one of you from the seate of your Government. For this his desire is vnfatiable and immoderate, and cannot be included nor shut vp, neither in Heauen nor in Earth. If that all *Phillips* Kingdomes which he useth commonly in that long traine or taile of his most proud Titles and Termes of Honour were put or layd into one of the Seales of *Cristolae*s ballance, and in his other scale his Ambition or greedie desire of Honour; All the Kingdomes would scarcely weigh the quantity of one graine, in comparisou of his Ambition.

Alexander the Great looked about for more worlds, when he had conquered the whole world; but *Phillip* would, if he could, with the Gyants assault the heauens. And therefore, *O Princes*, and you most peacefull Princes, I intréate you, and I would admonish you, that you iudge no more of the occasion and lawfulnessse of our warre; but in your iudgements and opinions to hold it for good: and I exhort you most earnestly againe and againe, that you by all

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meanes, both in your vnderstandings, and with all your powers, will take heed of the treacheries, robberies, and mischievous practises of *Phillip* deceit.

In former times, when as the *Athenians*, partly with warre, and partly with deceits and treacheries, sought to get unto themselves certaine neere adjacent places, as the Cities of *Syracusa*, *Lacedæmon*, *Messana* and *Catana*: they by their immoderate Ambition, and desire of others Rights, drew such an hatred upon their owne heads, that *Darius* the most mighty King of *Persia*, with the whole country of *Grecia*, voluntarily undertooke and prosecuted warre against them, unto which euery man ranne and hasted, as to quench a publicke flame. But you, O most *Illustrious Princes*, ought long ago to haue expelled *Phillip*, (with your conioyned forces from you, and from your prosperous States) that seeketh continually your liues and Kingdomes, by most unjust warre, and by most wicked enterprises.

And it concerns, and is fitting, not onely for you, who for a long time since, haue bene provoked, spurred, and stirred up thereunto, by the many injuries and ambition of *Phillip*, but euen you altogether, who see and perceiue, that he incroacheth with violence upon the limmits of your neighbours; and with an easie and slow pace creepeth and incroacheth towards your Countries. It standeth you upon in time to looke unto it; to the end, that your neighbouring Countries, being conquered and brought under his slavery and bondage, Tyranny, when you least thinke upon it, do not incroach upon you.

When as *Phillip* of *Macedon*, the Father of *Alexander* the Great, after the Battell with the *Tribaldes*, had entertained a long dissembling warre with the *Athenians*, the *Thebeans* assembled themselves for this occasion; fearing, lest when the *Athenians* had bene conquered, the fire of their neighbouring-warre might haue shorne into them. And a litle before, there being a confederacy made betwixt two of the mightiest Cities; who, before had bene at extreme enmity with each other, terrified thereby, and by their Embassadors, all the Country of *Grecia*: esteeming it so, that a common enemy ought and must be repelled with common force; so that if the first invasion of *Phillip* of *Macedon*, had had good successe; he would not haue held up, nor rested untill he had conquered and subjugated the whole

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whole country of *Græcia*. The *Romanes* in former time, perceauing that the power of the *Carthaginians* increased and grew great, they had an especial care that the *Carthaginians* should not grow so great as to ouer-master them: And for that end they sent their souldiers to relieue the *Mamertines* from the beleagring, and to relieue *Spain* from seruitude of the *Africans*.

Although that the *Venetians* are not very lightly incited to warre, but when the matter of necessity constrayneth them: Yet they neuer refused to send their warlike power for the succour of others that were under them, when they perceaued that their neighbours contended with each other, with an vnreasonable and an immoderate violent ambitione.

These, and the like even to an innumerable examples (or fore-deedes) doe teach you, how carefully you must take heede of that most pestilent euill, of the Spanish ambition; and do shew; or proue, that it is a righteous and just cause, that even all you with one consent with us, prosecute a warre against that Tyrant.

For our States do know, that the occasion of their warre against *Phillip*, is not onely exceeding just and righteous, and ever was: but also, that they at no time, now nor never, may cease their warre, that they may make no peace with *Phillip*, but alwayes must maintaine warre against that Tyrant. For we are taught by our friends, how we must take heed of our enemies: For if *Phillip* do gaze and long so earnestly, and with such diligence for your Kingdomes; like as you see he daily doth; how then shall we speed? For assuredly he wil never lay aside Armes before that he hath subjugated all the *Netherlands* under him, because it is a Countrey so fit for his purpose; who, out of them may attempt many enterprises upon your Kingdomes, and dayly may beginne to raise new warres against you, and draw out of them Souldiers, Armes, and all manner of warlike provision against your adjacent Countries. And therefore he wou'd farre rather cast the greatest part of Christendome for a prey to the *Turkes*; then to cease these warres.

At the last Parliament in *Germany*, he would not consent to furnish the Emperor with any soldiers, nor assistance against the *Turkes*; and the reason was, because he might the better vex Christendome with warre.

Dec yee yet doubt of this, O yee Princes, which you your selues

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haue scene, that *Phillip* in the beginning of our ciuill commotions, had far rather loose two Kingdoms, *Tunis* and *Goulet*, which the *Turkes*, under their General *Sinam Bascha* then recouered from him, then that hee would for a while cease his warres with us; or would remoue his Souldiers out of these Prouinces, against the most deadly and mortal enemy of all Christendome.

And you know how many Souldiers, how much Armes, and what charges *Phillip* hath been at, and wasted, to maintain this war against us. So that if you would but reckon up the same, you shall find that he might haue bought and purchased two *Netherlands* with that mony: although notwithstanding they be very great, rich, and exceeding copious. So that there is no doubt of this, but *Phillip* would far rather endure the greatest losse that might betide him then that he would leaue *Belgium* with out bellum, or the Low-countries without long encountings of warre, with out strife, without souldiers, that they might liue in peace and quietnesse, freely and wholly according to their Lawes and priuiledges. For by this war, and with the conquest of our Prouinces, he wil lay and establish the strongest foundation and surest ground-werke of his Monarchy, Souldominion, Tyrannie, and cruel Government. For when he saw and perceaued that these Countries were so singularly fitting for his cruel treacheries and designments, and that our Lawes and Liberties contrarily did wholly oppose the same: therefore sought he first of all with warre, with force and violence, to plucke vp, teare in sunder, and with violence, to oppresse the same, to the end, that his subiects of other Kingdoms, which at this present he hath subiugated, or else might subiugate hereafter; from this our concordng, and generall defence of our Lawes and Liberty, might take no example or instance, with the greater courage and alacrity, to stand for, and maintaine their liberty.

What do you then iudge, *o you most peaceful Princes?* or what is your conclusion that our States ought to doe, who chiefly seek for the common good of their native Countrey? Verily it cannot be with them, as it is vnder the Government of a cruel Tirant, and as it usually is in ill-gouerned Reipublicks: they are not vsed to be lead, and to submit themselves at any time, with cap and knee, as flatterers doe to the wills, desires, and lusts of their superiour Lords, nor to be dealt with all as hired Slaves? considering that they

Of the Netherlandish warre.

they neuer would admit nor suffer, that their Lawes, Liberties, nor their Reipublick, should bow or submit vnder the yeaके of vniust and vnlawfull Government: But haue as good fathers of their natiue-Country; as good fighters for their freedome, and Defendors of their Lawes, (like as it must be in a Reipublick which is moderately and ciuilly gouerned by their Prince) directed their designer, wils, and gouernment of their superiour Lord; according to their Lawes, and the preservation of their Liberty.

Do you think that the Spaniards shall spoyle and cruell vex and torment our Reipublick; and that we with shame will leaue and quit the same? Shall we neglect our deare country and liberty? Must we despise the lawes of our predecessors? And shall they peruert & turn topsie-turvie our ciuill orders and policy into tyranny? And shall we with wringing hands look vpon the coarise, and behold the exequies or funerall of our *patrie* and natiue country? Shal they rend & teare in peeces the body of our common-wealth, and like most ravenous beasts deuoure the same? And shall we like slaues, with praying and intreating, hardly preserve our own liues, goods, and estates? Or do ye not far rather laud & extol with the highest commendation of honour, this will and affection of our States, for their manumising and preserving of their deare and natiue country? Inste and exhort you them to proceed as they are best able, and to the vttermost of their powers, for the preservation and manumising of their owne liues and liberty? Come not these things daily into your remembrances, when you think of the Netherlandish warre, or discourse thereof, which I haue now demonstrated, and with sure and infallible and vncontrollable reasons proued vnto you, viz. that our States, & all the Netherlanders, being drenched and soaked in misery, and oppressed with the cruelty of the Spaniards; and being expeld out of their natiue country, of meere necessity were constrained to take Arms against *Philip*. And that now all the other treacheries, infidelities & iniuries which the Spaniards during the time of these wars haue done vnto the Netherlanders, being so great, so inhumane, and so incredible, that they themselves (so to speak) do earnestly exhort, do require & command, that the States with a constant courage, should keepe and maintaine their armies, and neither now, nor neuer, to lay them out of their hands; but to shew vnto the other subjects of *Phillip* (those of *Sicilia*,

An Oration of the lawfulnessse

Calabria, Lombardy, Arragon, Castile, India, &c Portugal yea euen vnto your selues, *O Illustrious Princes*, I say to shew, and with valiant deeds to proue, that not onely we, but all of you together, yea and all men vpon the face of the earth, far rather ought to dye, then to behold or looke vpon the face of that tyrant.

Do ye yet think, or can you imagine with your selues, that *Phillip*, with the limits of our countrey, hath limited in his tyranny? Do yee not yet see and perceiue, that the high ascending and mortall flames of the Spanish tyranny, deuoureth and swalloweth vp the thresholds, doores, and turrets of your kingdoms? Arise, and at the last awake out of this your sleepe and carelesnesse; come hither with speede, and in all haste flye hereinto, for to quench these vniuersall fire-flames. Wherefore do yee seeke vnto vs against our wils, by your counsels, authorities, and respects, to induce vs to make peace with *Phillip*; whereas it had been more fitting, that you your selues long agoe, with warre and force of armes should haue expelled *Phillip*, and with an especiall force and power to haue suppressed him?

And to the end I may speake vnto you all one after another, you *most mighty Princes of Germany*, be sencible, that *Philp* in your Dutchland doth not hunt after a cruell and vniust government; but (so to speake) doth possesse the same already. For he hauing once conquered these Netherlandish prouinces; when you will not bow and submit to his gouernment: he will haue all the hauens of the sea, and the mouthes of all the Germane riuers at his owne will, and in his owne power: thereby afterwards to impose such grieuous toles and taxations, vpon your nauigation and trading, or else wholly will hinder the same, euen as it shall please himselfe. And this is that for which, and in behalfe whereof; one or two of the prouinces doe appeare in your assemblies and consultations: you heare him publicly speak his minde, and you esteeme and preferre his tyrannicall advice and counsell, before your owne prosperity and tranquility. You haue him, the Bishop of *Frisinghen* and *Hildeshen* preferred before; and you haue seene them made Princes and Prince-Electors of the Empire; The Bishop of *Collen*, *Liege*, and *Magdeborgh*; and you haue seene that the most ambitious Duke of *Bavaria* hath laid snares for you all.

And to the end that I may turne my speech vnto you, *O you illustrious & mighty powerful Princes of Poland*, hath not *Philp* brought

of the Netherlandish warre.

a great number of that generation of mankind, (I say Iesuites) into your Countrey, by whose religion and policy they haue brought almost the whole world into an ypocrite, to the end that he by their meanes, with Sun-shine-like deceits, might propound vnto you what his will and counsell is.

To you also, *most peaceful Princes of Italy*, I haue already sayd, and say againe, that the sword of the Spanish tyranny hangeth by a very small threed ouer your heads, already naked and drawne out of the scabberd.

And for you, *O most illustrious Senators (or Priny Councillors) of Venice*, you your selues haue seen and beheld the tyranny of *Phillip* in your owne State and gouernment, when he sent money to arme the Turke against you; and diuerted the power and force of the Turk from his owne dominions vpon *Cyprius*; although that hee by thee quity and right of the covenant, had been exceedingly obliged and beholding vnto you.

Therefore *O Princes of Christendome*, yet euen now, at the longlast, be carefull of your owne estates and affaires, of your owne liues and prosperitie; marke and consider it well, that *Phillip* is enemy and tyrant to you all, and suffer him to liue no longer in the world: but resist and impeach his ambition to reigne, and that his pestilent and mortall government proceed no further. And like as some certaine members are cut off when they begin to be without life and blood, and are hurtfull to all the other parts of the body; euen so must you also esteeme, that this inhumane cruelty in humane shape, must (so to speak) be separated and cut from the common body of men. Verily the deed of the Persians is much to be commended, and ought to be wel thought upon of you all; who when *Cometes* and *Oropastes* two of their Magicians (or wise men) by the like tyrannie and murder of *Smerdis*, King of Persia, possessed the Kingdom: they were slaine by the valour of seuen of the ablest Princes of Persia, all of them running with a singular affection, diligence, and burning zeale to kill and to destroy those tyrants with their swords, one of the Magicians clasped about the neck of one of the Princes whose name was *Gobrias*, which made his companions to linger the more, because they would not kill him in steed of the Magician (for this was done in a dark place) who commanded the Magician to thrust his sword through his body. Yet in the end the Magician was slaine, and this
valiant

An Oration of the valiant Iulius

valiant *Gabrias* (who had rather to haue died, then that the tyrant should haue escaped with life) was saved, and had his life preserved, Such an hate did these men beare to tyrants.

The Grecians in former times attributed diuine honour to those men who had slaine a tyrant, And doe you thinke that the Netherlands shall do euill, or more vniust, that they oppose and resist *Philip* that inhumane tyrant.

The Romanes expelled their King *Tarquinius Superbus*, because that he, did but in some sort weaken the state of their common-wealth; and shall we suffer or indure *Philip* in our common-wealth, who not onely with fire and sword would destroy and turn-vp-side-downe all the Netherlands, but euen the whole world? No, by no means. Our States without doubt, will proceede and prepare the way for you to break off, and to expel this tyrant. They wil perseuere to diuert, driue away, and to foyle him so farre and wide from suppressing and killing of our prosperity, that once, not onely they and theirs, but also euen the other provinces of the Netherlands, may be-re-established in their former liberty, and may lead them out of the straights of the Spanish tyranny, and repossesse them in the possession of their predecessors. That finally, they being re-established, and better ordered, and vnited and bound with the Prouinces of the whole Netherlands; they may stop the incursion and invasion of this cruell tyrant, and altogethery with one accord may expell him from their prosperity, and from their common liberty. *Amen.*

FINIS.

AN ADIOYNDER OF SVNDRY OTHER PARTICV- LAR WICKED PLOTS AND

Cruell, Inhumane, Perfidious; yea, Vnnaturall
practises of the Spaniards.

To the well-affected indifferent READER.



Entle Reader, there being so much spoken, as thou maist perceine, by the fore-going first Part of the Spanish practises, touching the cruell, inhumane, trecherous, perfidious; yea, vnnaturall practises of the *Spaniards*, in most parts of the World, which may sufficiently delineate him in his deserved colours, that whosoever beholds him may mourne to see this *Ha?zel* so to tyrannize ouer the innocent, and that the Lord should permit, and the earth beare such an vnlicard of monster; yet notwithstanding, much more might be added in sundry other particulars, as the Dutch Chronicles mention, and other Writers haue well set out: amongst which, although I my selfe be a stranger by Nation to them; yet since the time of my abode here, hauing attained some vnderstanding in the Language, I haue thought fit to adde some further particulars, which in my reading I haue obserued, and could adde many more; but my purpose being onely to annex a few things, I will not enlarge, lest I adde another Trearise. But before I come to what I intend, I haue thought fit hauing some oversight in the publishing of this Trearise aforegoing, to note by the way, the ill translating of one word, in the 21 folio, it is touching the Princessse of *Parma*, the Translator termes her *awerasty Queene*, whereas the word beares no such sence in the Dutch, but signifies one that hath a sharp wit to decieve, as is said of the Serpent that beguiled *Eve*. Beside that that is translated *Embassadours*, speaking of such as were sent

The Dutch word Ghesante signifieth indifferently Embassadour or Messenger.

from the States to the King, I conceiue to be more fittingly rendred
Messenger.

First, thou art to vnderstand, gentle Reader, that the King of *Spain* was louingly receiued here in the 17 Provinces, and a solemne oath was taken on both parts; the King for his part swore to maintaine all their Lawes and Priuiledges, and they to him all due homage and allgiance: Hee presently demanded of them a summe of money, whereupon the States did assemble, and collected for him 40. millions of Florines, of *Brabants* money, to be paid in nine yeares, and paid it into his Exchequer; and although it was more then they had paid before to his predecessours, yet vpon this he did take great displeasure against them; and, as they write, he for this did hate them to death.

But he pretended this to be the cause of his wroth, because he saw that there were some among them, that did desie the Pope and all his Religion: but that could not be, for the Citie of *Aels* was as superstitious in that Religion as *Rome* it selfe; for they did persecute the Reformed Religion euen vnto death: and yet for all that both they, and 170 faire Villages that belonged vnto them, were by them plundered and spoyled of all their goods, and many of them wounded and tormented for to confesse where their money was, and many were killed. Thus much by the way.

My scope and chiefe intent is to shew the first and iust cause of the warres in the *Netherlands*; whereby the diligent Reader (not partially affected) may clearely vnderstand, that the *Netherlanders* did not rebelliously take vp Armes against a lawfull Prince, (as some ignorantly thinke and speake) but iustly and religiously defend themselves against a perfidious Tyrant who sought their ruine, by all possible meanes he could, and the subuersion of the whole State. A long while they patiently vnder-went his cruell oppressions, and intollerable vexations, as the Histories clearely manifest; till there was no hope, but either they must become slaues in soule and body, worse then that of *Israel* in *Egypt*, they and theirs for euer, or else be butchered by mercilesse executioners of a cruell Tyrant. This Tyrant hauing a purpose to innouate all things, to root out the ancient inhabitants, and to frustrate all the Lawes, Customes and Priuiledges which himselfe had sworne to maintaine, knew not how better to effect his euill ends, then by raising a bloody Inquisition to set ouer them for their gouernment; which

The Inquisi-
tion was there
4. yeares be-
fore.

which said Inquisition (raised in *Spain*) concluded and pronounced certaine Articles, the tenth of February 1568, which were confirmed by the King, the 26. following. Now because it may appeare I doe them no wrong in this charge, I will lay downe the Articles themselves verbatim.

The most sacred Office of Inquisition so often attempted in the Netherlands by his Maiestie, and hindered vntill this time, shall be instituted and aduanced in this manner, which is most expedient.

1 They must perswade the Emperour, being gone astray, and wickedly confederated with heretikes, that hee resigne his Kingdomes vnto his Sonne, with the whole administration of the Netherlands.

2 That the Emperour with his two sisters, hauing giuen ouer all affaires, leauing the Netherlands, shall retire into *Spain* vnto Vs, being assured that they shall neuer returne more to doe any harme.

3 These being dispatcht, we must also draw the king to vs, and keepe him for euer that he part not, and not suffer any Flemmings to haue access or conference with him.

4 That the King write vnto, and command the Clergie of the Netherlands that with the Inquisition they should accept of 15 new Bishops, the which should be free from all secular iurisdiction, yea in cases of treason.

5 The subiects of the Netherlands through their malice and waywardnesse, will reuolt and moue seditions and tumults, pleasing to all but to our companie.

6 The Princes and Noblemen, heads and authours of those factions, with the subiects, must be taken away, and the others reduced vnto reason.

7 They shall hire at our charge theeves and spoilers of Churches and Images, whose offences shall be by all the world imputed to Rebels, by some subtil meanes, and so we shall vanquish them.

8 That all Commerce, Negotiation, Liberties and Priuiledges, shall be rooted out, and that all be reduced to extreame pouertie, whereby the realme shall be permanent for Vs.

9 No man of all those Countries (except he be of our faction) shall be held worthy to liue, and finally all to be rooted out: and all Goods, Possessions, Arts, and Trades, and all Orders to bee

taken away, vntill there may bee a new Realme; and a new people.

10 In this action the wise and valiant Duke *Alua* shall be employed in person; whereas any other, were he of the blood Royall, or a Prince, shall be of no esteeme: so as being suspect, yea in the smallest matters, they must be dispareht.

11 No Contracts, Rights, Promises, Donations, Oathes, Priviledges, and solemne Assertions of the Netherlands, shall be of any force for the Inhabitants, as being guilty of high treason.

12 But aboute al we must haue an especiall care that in these matters of so great weight and moment, wee proceed not violently, but by meanes, by degrees, and that discreetly, to the end the Princes, Nobilitie, and inferiour subiects may mutinie amongst themselves, so that one may persecute, yea execute the other vntill at last the hangman be executed himselfe. For in all Christendome is there not a Nation more foolish and indiscreet, and whose leuitie and inconstancy may sooner be deceiued then these Netherlanders and God punisheth them accordingly.

There were other Articles found in President *Vergades* chamber at *Antwerpe*, and there Printed; and those are more cruell then these.

By these articles and vnlimited power of these lawlesse Inquisitors, no man had any assurance of life or goods for a day, but were in danger continually to be called into question, either for the law of their God, or for some work of mercie, which either religion, morall equitie, or the bond of nature called for: or else if they had colour for none of these, they would impose such vnreasonable taxations, which if the Cormorants had not their gorges crambed full, they would make prey of all, whether by right or wrong it mattered not. But my purpose being to auoid prolixitie, and to passe by impertinencies and needlesse repetitions, I will come to that I intended. In the yeare 1565, a match was concluded for the Prince of *Parma*, and the nuptials were solemnized at *Brussels*, whither all the Nobilitie and Gentry of the Countrey were invited, and accordingly, here met of them about foure hundred, who like faithfull *Moses* being grieved to see the daily oppression of their brethren by the hard task-masters of the Inquisition, who not onely robbed them of their

their goods, but also by inhumane crueltie, and vnnaturall butchery, deprived them of their liues, who daily led them as sheepe vnto the slaughter: The consideration hereof they ioyntly layd to heart, and hereupon (being met vpon this occasion) they resolved to present a petition to the Princeesse of Parma, which they did the fifth of April next following. The Earle of Breddrod deliuering the petition, humbly requested a fauourable answer. Three dayes after they receiued this answer, viz. they should send two of their Noblemen to the king, by whom she would write in their behalfe. The Lord of Barlaymont being present, after their departure said (like a flattering Courtier) they were a company of Rascals and Beggars.

It was concluded that the Marquesse of Bergen, and the Lord of Mountigny should goe into Spaine, who humbly presented their suit to the King, but could get no answer in 16 Moneths after.

The 26 of August anno 1566, the Princeesse of Parma sent for the Gentry, telling them she had receined letters from the King, containing promise that all should be well, and that the Inquisition should cease. And for the Proclamations they should not be of force, but his Maiestie would take such order as they and the State should well like of. The Princeesse also gaue them toleration for their Religion, on condition, they should not deface, nor breake downe the ornaments of the Churches: for, there hadt bene before this time vilde and lewde persons that frequented the meetings of the Reformed; these went into the Papists Churches, stole their silver and what was worth carrying away, and brake down their Images: but the Reformed suspected that this was done by the appointment of the Princeesse; neither was their suspicion without good ground, for it is to be seene in the Kings letters, Art. 7. that she had order to hire this raskall company to doe this villany, which fact was imputed to the Protestants, to the end that they might not only be odious there, but also seeme guilty, even in the iudgement of other Nations; howbeit the offenders were punished with imprisonment, yea, with death, euen by the Reformed themselves, who iointly confessed the action vnlawfull, and were so farre from hauing occasion of offence in this nature, that Papist Burgers themselves offered good securitie that no such thing should be attempted by them. Who then can make any doubt that they were free from giuiding hand in those outrages laid to them, the very opposites in Religion

being Judges, who as appeares were willing to undertake for them; now as their faithfullnesse brought so good effect for their persons, so did the Lord worke that the truth of Religion found many friends likewise, the Lord wondrously prospering the course of Reformation, in so much that in short space they had in *Flanders* 60 Assemblies, some Churches themselves builded, but were by Duke d'*Alva* soone cast downe, who erected gallowes of them, and hanged them vpon them.

The Princesse of *Parma* also began to entertaine souldiers with pretence to apprehend the Church-robbers, but intended indeed to take away the ancient Liberties and Priuiledges of the *Netherlanders*, wherefore sending certaine companies to *Valencyn*, the inhabitants denied them entertainment, who for that were proclaimed Rebels the 14 of December, soone after they were besieged, sacked, and many of them put to death.

But before they of *Valencyn* denied entertainment to the souldiers, the Nobility had receiued letters out of *Spaine*, from the Marquisse of *Bergen*, shewing, that the King was exceedingly incensed against the *Netherlanders*, that he had in the presence of many vowed to be fully reuenged of them, though it were with the hazard of all his Countries; that hee would make them an example to all the world, and would inuite the Pope and Emperour to assist him in this quarrell. Vpon the receipt of the letters the Nobility assembled at *Dortmond* to consult what were best to be done, but concluded not any thing, some iudging it safest to ioyne, and make head to resist his tyrannicall furie, other seeking rather to escape by flight.

Now was the Inquisition againe brought in contrary to the Lawes and Liberties of the Country, which the King was sworne to maintaine; for execution whereof there were appointed 12. Inquisitors, commaunding them to receiue the Councell of *Trent*, these were called, *The bloody Councell*, and so they were indeede, which *Rome* well knew, refusing it, anno 1559. when as they fell vpon the Inquisitors house, set it on fire, wounded the chiefe of them, brake open the prison, and set at liberty the captiues, and would haue burned a Cloyster that belonged vnto them, had they not bene by faire meanes dissuaded by two Lords in the Citie, viz. *Marc. Antonio Colonus*, *Iulius Caesar*.

Like.

Likewise *Venice*, *Naples* and *Millaine*, though they be *Papists*, would not suffer it; the Marchants of *Lisbon* who are as superstitious in the *Romish* Religion as any in the world, yet they did offer the King two millions and a halfe, that they might not haue it in their parts.

Yet the cruelty of this Inquisition did here encrease, and many souldiers came into the Countrey, that some of the Countrey forsooke their houses, and resorted towards *Freezland*, and some did stay at home, and went to meete Duke *Alua*, and welcomed him into the Countrey, and shewed him all the kindnesse they could, but hee very shortly tooke off most of their heads, so that hee did so terrifie the inhabitants, that there fled out of the Countreies more then an hundred thousand householders, besides many that were taken in flying, were taken and hanged, and all these had their goods confiscated to the King.

*As the Countie
of Egmond, &
the Graues of
Horn, & many
of the
Countie at
Brussels,
1568.*

The Prince of *Orange*, and the Earle of *Bredrod*, and five Earles, eight Lords, and fifty Gentlemen, and they had some five thousand of Souldiers being in *Freezland*, but were most ouerthrowne by the Duke of *Alua* his forces; so that they were driuen to *Embden* land, and there prepared themselves to the sea.

Now the Duke of *Alua* did commaund all the inhabitants to pay the hundreth peny of all their goods, and of all that was bought and sold; the which some of the States did yeeld vnto: And then hee commaunded them to pay the twentieth peny: and then hee commaunded the tenth peny of all things that were bought and sold, so often as they should be sold. Some of the States did make their humble petition to the Duke, and to the Princes, shewing them that it would drine all trading out of the land. The Duke of *Alua* told them that hee would haue it, though it did ruinate all the land; but if hee saw them to doe their best to pay it, hee would deale fauourably with them. But hee said that it was against the Kings honour if they should not pay it, seeing it was his pleasure to require it. And now did the Inquisition imprison and execute many of the richer sort, as well *Papists* as of the reformed Church: and if they were rich, there was no escaping for them. And whosoever was found to haue any hand in way of suit and petition to haue the tenth peny

*All the prisons
were filled, in
so much as
they were
forced to pre-
pare more, and
filled them
also.*

peny to be remitted, they were adiudged to haue committed high treason against God and the King; and all these must forfeit life and goods to the king, and not any of their children to enioy one peny worth of the same: but (poore Orphanes) they must begge their bread. And some that had beene buried certaine months, they caused them to be digged vp, and hanged on the gallowes, and some to be burned, because they had not the sacrament, and confessed before their death; but it was because he would confiscate their goods to the king: yea when these insatiable gold-thirsty and bloud-thirsty wretches wanted colour to couer their iniustice and cruelty, they had their officious imps (false witnesses) suborned by *Iesabel*, to get *Naboths* vineyard; witnesse *Mariis Hutton*, who was one of the Inquisitors Clarkes, and (being committed to Prison) did acknowledge that hee had made many false testimonies against sundry rich persons, some whereof were of the reformed Church. Here might fitly be brought in the hundred Marchants of *Granado*, who were of the Romane Religion, and were neuer other; what pretence had hee to cause them to bee murdered all in one night, and then presently to command all their goods to be brought to his treasure of Exchequer, whose estate was worth more then 28 hundred thousand pounds sterling? Now as this tyrant was a deuourer and destroyer of the liues of men, so did hee presume to vsurpe further, not only vpon ciuill ordinances, but vpon the things of God; so that those that were married in the reformed Church, he forced to be married againe: and if they were rich, hee tooke them from their husbands, and gaue them to his souldiers to make prize of them. Those that were baptized in the reformed Church, he compelled to be baptized againe, contrary to Gods word, and to the decree of the ancient counsels, so that intolerable were the burthens this cruell *Pharoh* layd, so excessiue was his cruelty, that he filled all places with blood, *bloud touching bloud*; as the Prophet speaks. For in small townes hee executed 50, and in great townes 200, and 300 or 400. And in places as men trauelled from one towne to another, they might see many that his souldiers had hung up in trees to death, and some were worth 80 thousand guldens, and some lesse: yea, this tyrant did confiscate so much lands and goods, as by his account sent into Spain, did amount yearly to 8 tun of mony sterling, besides the many thousands that he & his souldiers had.

All the money that he did exact out of this land in 6. yeares, did amount to more then 30. millions of gold. And if any were knowne to haue any thing that did belong to any that were put to death, and had not brought it to the knowledge of the Inquisition; they did looke both life and goods: yea the 16. of February 1566. hee gaue sentence in his Court at Madrid, that they were all traitors against God and himselfe. At Vtrecht he beheaded a widow that was 84. yeares old, because shee had before lodged a Preacher one night, whose living was worth foure thousand guilderis yearly. And at Maastricht a father for lodging his son that he had not seene in a long time, that was fled for religion, was put to death. And at that place there was one put to death for giuing a widow a peck of corn for an almes, whose husband this bloody Court had put to death. And many women were put to death, because they received their husbands in the night that were fled for religion; yea, they haue killed women great with child, and ripped vp their bellies, and taken out the child and killed it: and some they haue sleied alive, and covered drummes heads with their skies; and some they haue tyed to a post, and made a small fire round about them, and so roasted them to death.

At Naerden they receiued the Spaniards friendly into the towne, who promised them both their liues and goods; and as soone as they came in, they commanded them to come to the State-house without their Armes, the which they did, and the Spaniards gaue fire vpon them, and murdered them all: and then they ran about in the towne, and rauished the women, and after killed them and fired the towne. The yong children that lay in the cradle, they quartered them, and tooke them vpon their pikes, and so went vp and downe the towne, reioycing in their cruelty.

Such sauage cruelty is scarcely to be found in any History, what Christian heart can heare it, and not be affected with deepe sorrow, yet behold some monsters herein haue been found, that haue beene so farre from humanity herein, (for hee that hath humanity in him will commiserate others calamities) that they haue applauded it, as if he had in all these outrages done God good seruice. Amongst the rest, I shall content my selfe at present, but to name the holy Father the Pope, and one of his chiefe sonnes in this businesse. The Pope sends his Legate to commend these so rare exploit, and calls this cruell Duke *Alva* his beloued sonne, sends him a costly sword,

sword; the hilts whereof were of Gold, and a hat wrought with gold, and be-set with rich and costly stones, thanking him for his good service in maintaining the Romish Religion, and subverting of heretikes. Howbeit that his chiefe son I mentioned (exceeding this man of sin, in the sin of cruelty, as if he would verifie himselfe to be ten-fold more the child of Satan, then his father the Pope) thinks not so well of it, his name is *Vergas*, the President of this bloody Inquisition; for going shortly after into *Spaine*, he told the King, that he and Duke d' *Alua*, did marre all in the *Netherlands*, by showing so much mercy to those people.

Concerning this Duke d' *Alua*, of whose outrage and cruelty so many haue felt, and perfidious dealing which many haue found by lamentable experience, whereby may easily appeare of what stamp his excessive mercies are, euen such as the Wiseman speakes of *Pro. 12. 10* *the tender mercies of the wicked are cruell*. In which he prides

*These words
he spake at a
banquet, as
he sat at the
Table, re-
velling he had
done the
King so good
service.*

himselfe, boasting he had slaughtered eighteen thousand and six hundred, in form of iustice, in six yeares times, and ten times so many he and his Souldiers murdered otherwaies. And many more would he doublelesse haue murdered, had not the Lord restrayned and limited him, for his desire herein was as hell, that cannot be satisfied: Witnesse the purpose of his proceeding against the Magistrates of *Bruxels*, because they did not collect the tenth peny so as he desired. He sware that he would haue it, and before he would let it fall or remit it, the Sunne and Moone should leaue their shining: so he went to *Brussels*, and commanded the executioner to prepare ladders and ropes to hang vp that night in their doores 70 of the citizens, and gaue them his warrant in writing what they should be: But God in his providence prevented this his cruell purpose, in that there came newes that the Graue of Mark had taken in the Brill, so the tyrant did not goe forward with his bloody enterprises.

*Anno 1573
April. 1.
I haue instant
ced but 4 or
5 towns, but
there were
fewer any
town escaped
their cruell
pillaging, ex-
cept they had
bribed their
Commanders
with money.
ing large
sums.*

Thus hauing given you a taste of some of those many things I haue obserued concerning the intolerable oppression, and worse then sauage cruelty of the Spaniards, exercised vpon the people, which they endured and laboured vnder the space of sixteene yeares; I will now leaue these cruell tyrants to the Lord for iudgement, and address my selfe to speak somewhat further concerning this Earle of Mark, who had those Gentlemen with him that fled. Before this hee had laine with his shipping in England, but the King of *Spaine* sending

his.

his Embassadour to our Queen (who was then in peace with him) to desire her that she would not suffer his subiects to haue their harbour in her land, and that she would not giue them or suffer them to haue any reliefe whereby they should make head against him : and hereupon the Queene sent and commanded them out of her harbour ; and she commanded that they should not be suffered to haue any prouision in her coasts, so that now they had no other meanes but onely God, who did in his mercie prouide for them better then they expected. For they were purposed to haue gone for the Tassel, and to haue taken some towne about that part ; but when they came neere that part, they had the wind contrary that they could not come there, so they went for the Masse, and came with their ships before the Brill, and there they went presently and tooke it ; yet the Duke of *Alua* had his forces in the towne, neere so many as they were, whom they presently killed and chas'd out of the towne, and out of the Island. The Prince of Orange being in France, and hearing what had happened, he sent them souldiers with as much speede as could be out of France. And within one moneth after Duke *Alua* sent certaine companies to Vlishing to keepe that place strong for himselfe, and many of the Commanders were come into the towne. So the Magistrates commanded the citizens to come presently vpon the Statchouse, so they told them they must lodge the Spaniards in their houses, and they knowing how they had vsed the Citizens in all places where they came, they told the magistrates they would not haue the Spaniards in their towne. The Magistrates asked them which of them it was that did refuse to receiue them. They said, All of them. So the Magistrates seeing them so earnest against the Spaniards, they ioyntly tooke their Armes, and killed and tooke prisoners all them that were in the town, & with their Ordnance they shot at his ships where the Spaniards were, and they made away. And of those that were taken, there were the names of about 80 that they had in writing from Duke *Alua* that dwelt in the Island, that they should put to death. So those of the Brill sent their souldiers with speed to help the. And shortly the Prince of Orange came with forces and defended them ; and some other towne, seeing the crueltie of the Spaniards, forsooke the Spaniard, and ioynd with them, and took the Prince of Orange to be their Protector, yet the States notwithstanding did remaine in obedience to the King some fuen yeares after.

Against is is further worthy to be noted, that these Prouinces did
threetimes send to the King their Noblemen, but could obtaine no
mercy; and many more times they went to the Princesse of *Parask*,
and made their humble petition for redresse of their oppression, but
could not obtaine any fauour; then they made friends to the renow-
ned Queene of England, and to the Princes of *Germany*, and to the
Emperour, who did earnestly entreat by their Embassadors for
them. The King of *Spain* answered their Embassadors with these
words; he bad them tell their Masters, That they should meddle with
their owne subjects, and not with his, for he knew well enough how to rule
his subjects without their counsell. Now when our Queenes Maiestie
found this vntreasonablenesse and cruelty, then and not before, she as-
sisted them with Armes.

Ann. 1575.

*Marylam in
his Chroni-
cle an. 1567.*

His owne sonne Prince *Charles* did intreat for them, that it would
please him to let them haue their Lawes and Priuiledges, and that
they might not be so oppressed; and withall hee told his father that
those Countreies did belong to him, and that they were giuen him at
his Baptisme, for the which his father sent him to prison, and he ne-
uer came out againe. If the Lord would not haue forgot what *Amal-
ek* did long after, for smiting the weakest & hindmost of his people,
how may we in equiry forget the infinite murders, and spoiles, this
cruell Tyrant hath executed where euer hee hath preuailed? And
who can forget in speciall that bloody attempt against our selues, in
the yeare 1588.

If I should trace this Tyrant from place to place, I should runne
in infinitum; hauing made the name of Christianity hateful, by his
cruelty, amongst the Heathens that know not God further then the
light of nature: for it is confessed by the *Spaniards* themselves, that
some of the chiefe of the *Indians*, who were to be builde to death,
being told of heauen and hell, they asked whether the *Spaniards*
went when they died? It was answered to heauen, *Oh then said they,*
we will neuer come there, for we will neuer come where the Spaniards are.
But not to run so far, I will rest content to keepe me within the bounds
I chiefly intended concerning these Countreies. When the Citizens of
Leiden were in great distress, by reason of a long siege, the *Spani-
ards* proffering conditions of peace, if so be they would yeeld vp the
Citie and themselves to them, they refused to answer; For while they
had a right hand to hold the sword, and life to live, but if they should
be

*They were as-
sured by a
Popish Priest
so much that
after this life,
there was one
place for
and an other
of freedom.*

1588

84

be

be deuiſed to fall into their hands, they would rather burne the Citie
and downe themſelues, then to ſubmit to them, of whole perfidi-
ousneſſe they had had ſo lamentable experience: and when ſome of
the Citizens preſſed a yeelding, in reſpect of the extremitie of fa-
mine, a Burgermaſter, called *Peter Adrianſon* ſaid; *Louing friends,*
I confeſſe the famine is great, and that ſome doe die for want of food: yet
rather let vs agree to raiſe vp one another, as it ſhall fall by lot begin with
me firſt, and deuide me amongſt you.

At *Amſterpe*, the Spaniards by the appointment of their Gouver-
nour did come into the Citie in battell order, and marched vp and
down their ſtreets, and ſhot into their houſes, and made a tumultu-
ous noiſe, as if they had beene ſo many deuils, for one day and two
nights, and tooke the keyes from the Magiſtrates, and ſet watch at
the Ports; wherby they put the Citizens in ſo great feare, that many
women with childe fell in trauell, and ſome dyed with feare: and
they went by 12 or 20, into the beſt houſes, and commanded them
to prepare them the beſt cheere, as boyled and roſt, and other dainty
diſhes, as they liſt to call for; and beſides beere, they would haue at
leaſt two ſorts of wine. And all the chiefeſt Citizens houſes had at
leaſt tenne of theſe gueſts. And they all cryed out for money, and ſaid
that they would haue 15 moneths pay, before they went out of the
Citie, of them; and the Magiſtrates told them that they would
procure them in cloth, and apparell, and money the ſamme; but
they all cryed out for mony, and that mony they would haue before
they went away; ſo at the laſt, the Magiſtrates got the mony, which
did amount to 400 thouſand Guildens. And the charge they were at,
which theſe companions did coſt the Citizens, was 600 pound
ſterling the day, and thus they were oppreſſed with them 28 daies,
in which time they had made them all rich ſuites, ſome of ſattin and
veluet, and ſome of cloth of gold: and one of them had a cuſhi-
on of veluet, with theſe words in letters of gold, *I am the Dutch*
mans Bride-well Maſter. And thus they got 20 of them for the
preſent. And about two yeares after they came againe, and then they
uſed the Citizens much more cruelly, for theſe deuils did bring
ſtraw, and ſet on fire, and put it into the houſes, wherby they ſet
nine rich ſtreets on fire, and burnt them with many rich and coſtly
goods, and riſſed the Citizens of all their rich and coſtly jewells,
and ſiluer-workes, with their money, and three dayes did they tor-
ment

that they are ment the inhabitants for money: and in this time there was murdered of the Citizens aboue foure thousand. The money they tooke at that time, is reckoned for more then 40 tun of gold, beside the Jewels and the losse they had by fire, was as much as the rest. And thus was the best Citie of Marchants in Europe ruinated.

At Risell there was a Spaniard would force a rich woman to haue the vse of her body, and the woman cried out for helpe, and her husband came, and two of his neighbours to helpe his wife, and they thrust the Spaniard away, and hee ranne into the street and cried *Spayne, Spayne*, and there came many Spanish Souldiers about him, and they rushed into the house, and tooke the man and his neighbours, and carried them before the Magistrates on the Towne-house where they were assembled, and there before them he complained of them to be rebels, and stirrers vp of vp-roes, and told the Magistrates that if they did not presently put them to death, they would burne their Towne, and execute them themselves, whereupon they durst doe no otherwise, but hanged two, and whipped the other.

Diuers things being manifested of the Spaniards cruelty, I wil adde one instance of their trechery, and that of a famous person to his nearest familiars; yea, when he pretended sweetest familiarity & friendship. Pope *Alexander* the 6. a Spaniard by birth, inuited diuers Nobles & Cardinals to a banquet, with a purpose to poyson them all. The meetest instrument he made choise of to effect this, was a Spaniard, one *Caspar Burgio*, his sworn seruant. The Pope shewed himself wonderfull pleasant to auoyd suspicion, and drank a carouse to them all; willing that his trusty seruant to fill from such a bottel he knew well: which hee did very effectually to the Pope himselfe as well as to the rest. After the company was departed, the Pope perceiuing by an alteration in himselfe, what was done, and that he must die now also, said to *Burgio*, *This is a right Spanish trick*. It is written of them that they are so expert in these exploits, that if *Judas* himselfe were alive, he might goe to them to Schoole.

I doe beseech the Lord to shew mercy to my native Country, that they may neuer come vnder the government of the Spaniards, and giue them hearts to repent of their transgressions, and that they may sincerely embrace the Gospel of Iesu Christ, to their endlesse comfort. Amen.

Tours to command in all seruices, for the aduancement of the truth of Iesus Christ.

S. O.

O Thou most high God, Which guidest and governeest the heauen, the sea, the earth, warre and peace: Thou which giuest lawes and commandments to Kings, Princes, and to all people vpon the earth: Thou that appointest and giuest conquests, triumphs, and trophies, the signes of victory: Thou which doest binder and diuert ouerthrowes, dangers, and all vnjust dealing: Arise, O thou great God, and oppose thy selfe against the enemy of all iustice and peace against the enemy of thy praise and honour. We beseech thee, that With thy providence and wisdom thou wilt order our endeauours, and relieue thy people, that thy most holy name may be adored and honoured with all perfect piety and true religion. Amen.

FINIS.
